SHERLOCK BONES

STORY BY
YUMA ANDO
ART BY
YUKI SATO

2

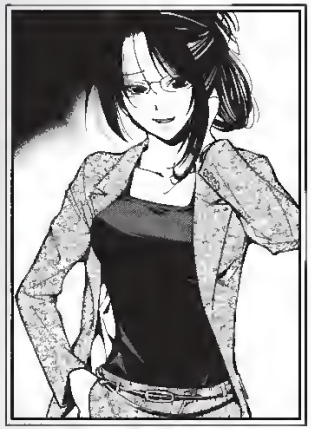
Sherlock Bones 2

Sherdog & Takeru Wajima

Story: Yuma Ando Art: Yuki Sato

Airin Wajima

Takeru's sister, an inspector in the Violent Crimes Division. She is quite an attractive woman. Sherdog calls her Irene.



Miki Arisaka

A second-year at London Academy High School. Takeru's friend since childhood, and member of the school newspaper staff. Takeru's crush.

THE STORY SO FAR

"Hello, my dear Watson."
The dog spoke! Takeru took a dog home from the pound, and he turned out to be Sherlock Holmes! But apparently Takeru is the only one who can understand him speak. Named for Sherlock Holmes, but with a canine spin, Sherdog and his master Takeru find themselves surrounded by mysterious crimes in modern-day Japan!!

STORY

CHARACTERS

Takeru Wajima

A second-year at London Academy High School, he is an ordinary student who loves dogs. He is Sherdog's owner and the one person who can understand him. When Sherdog saw his name, he misread it as Watson, and appointed Takeru his assistant. Perhaps through some trick of fate, the two are mixed up in all kinds of difficult mysteries.

Sherdog
(Sherlock Holmes)

The mixed-breed puppy that Takeru adopted. His true identity is that of the world-famous detective, Sherlock Holmes. When he has the Wajima family's heirloom pipe in his mouth, he can speak to Takeru. He solves crimes with Takeru, learning about the modern world in the process.

Volume.2

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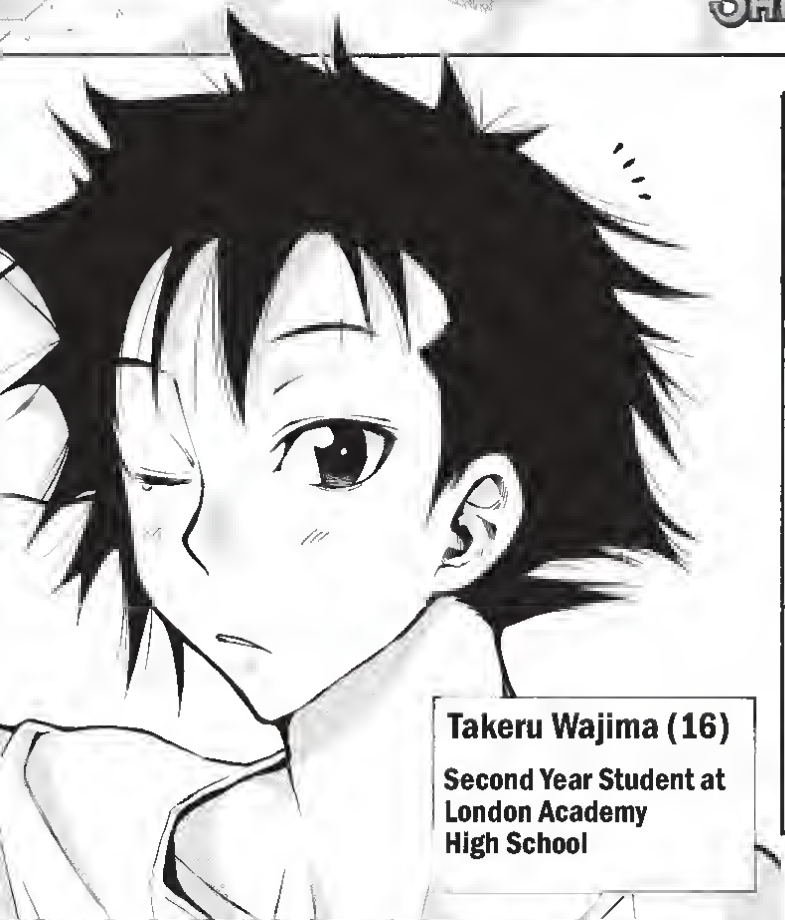
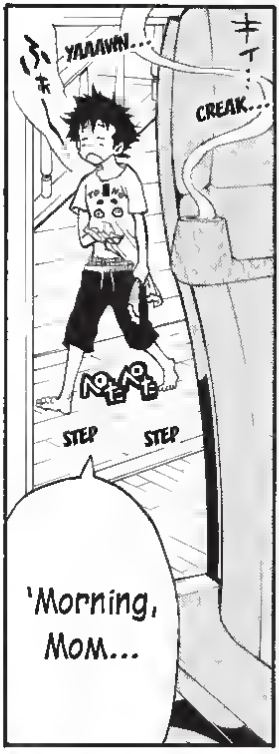
Tea Time 1 ⚜ An Unusual Guest





Takeru Wajima (16)

Second Year Student at London Academy High School

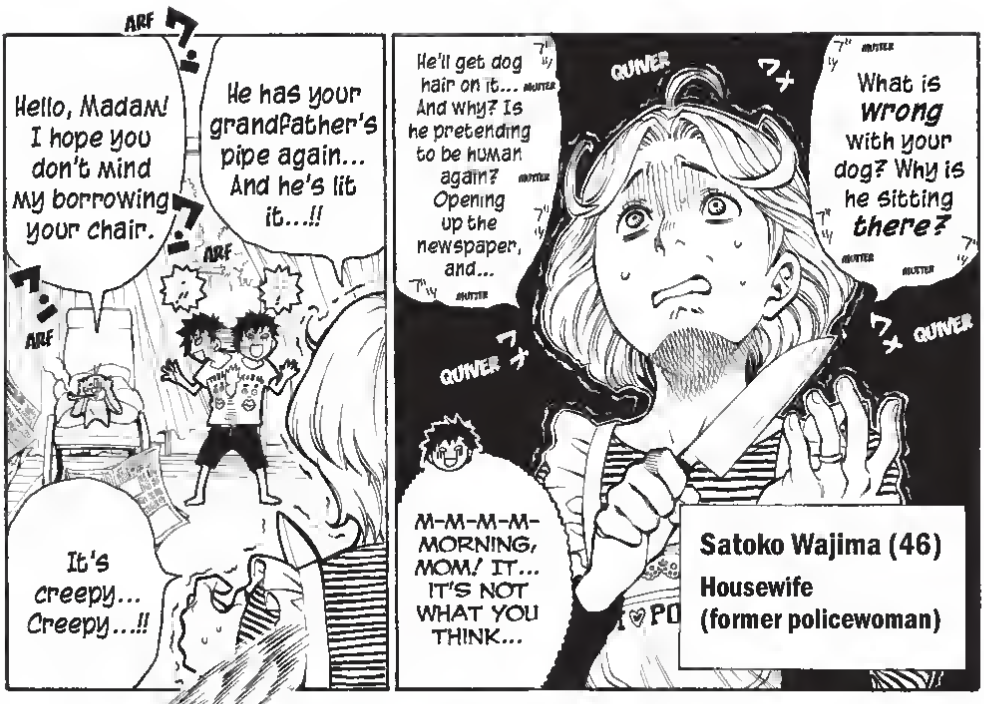
Sherdog!!!
RUSTLE
I know it's Sunday, but let's not sleep the entire day away, hm?
?!
HEH...
Good morning, my dear Watson.

I had a chair just like this on Baker Street in London.
I would sit there, smoking my pipe and reading the Times.
And my name is SherLOCK, Watson.
I told you, you can't sit there, Sherdog!
That rocking chair is Mom's favorite spot!
Even I stay out of it!

Of course, With the great Sherlock Holmes on the case, it won't be long before the criminal is brought to justice.
It appears there's been a series of break-ins in our neighbor-hood.

He's not listening.
...
Hm? Take a look at this article, Watson.

JOLT
Mom!
?!
Takeru.


ARF
Hello, Madam! I hope you don't mind my borrowing your chair.
He has your grandfather's pipe again... And he's lit it...!!
ARF
ARF
It's creepy... Creepy...!!
He'll get dog hair on it... And why? Is he pretending to be human again? Opening up the newspaper, and...
QUIVER
What is wrong with your dog? Why is he sitting there?
QUIVER
QUIVER
M-M-M-M-MORNING, MOM! IT... IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK...
Satoko Wajima (46)
Housewife
(former policewoman)

THAT'S IT! YOU'RE TAKING HIM BACK TO THE SHELTER!!
Please! Anything but that!
YIP!
WHOOM
I...I'll discipline him! I promise!!
DASH

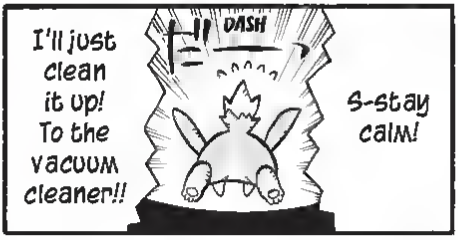
...Hmm.
The lady of the house is in an even fouler mood than usual today.
VOOM
The hair! The dog hair!!
Sigh.
...You can't keep doing this.
If I were to go off to school and leave you here...
Are you suggesting that history's greatest detective wear a collar, go out for walkies, and answer the call of nature in the middle of the street?
Yeah, 'cause you refuse to act like a dog!
How did you light that, anyway?
SUCK
CLANG
...someone would take you off to the pound while I was gone.
No, not that!!
What ?!
ARF!
You have my word!!
...
I sure hope so...
You stay here and don't get into any trouble, Sherdog!
...Look! Now she's at max crankiness, and it's all your fault!
C-coming!
Takeruuu!! I'm going shopping! Come carry groceries for me!

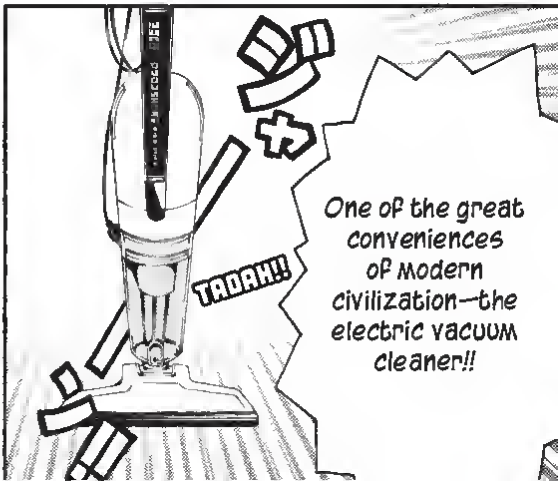
...To do something to improve the lady's mood.
ひょこっ
HOP
I know! I'll take this opportunity...
TEP
Whew. One must be considerate when relying on the hospitality of others.
?!
CRASH
ガシャン
This is quite the pile of dishes.
Dear me.
SCRATCH
Well, the challenge makes it all the more worth...
カッ
...doing!
CATCH
...
ZUHH...

Oh no you don't!!
はむっ!
HOMPH!
!!
SLIP
LIFT
N...never Mind. I'll... clean it up later.
ZSHH
CHOMP
カぷっ
I'll start with this large plate...
WINCE
DROP
SHATTER
SMASH
CRASH
ZSHH
Whew. That was close...
FWICK
SWAY
...
G-GLANCE

Good heavens!!
MWOM

I'll clean the mess and the matter will be resolved!!
This isn't a problem! A quick observation tells me there weren't any particularly expensive dishes in that pile!
ZH
ZH
ZH
ZH
ZH


I'll just clean it up! To the vacuum cleaner!!
DASH
S-stay calm!

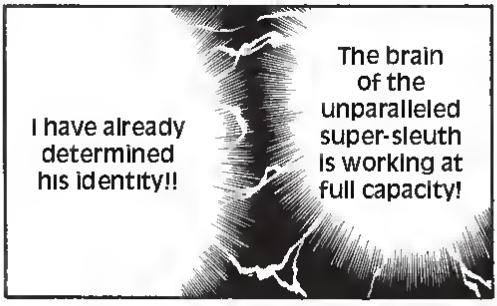

TADAH!!
One of the great conveniences of modern civilization—the electric vacuum cleaner!!

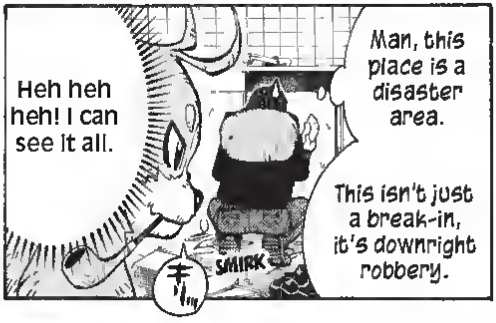
SCRUNCH
ガシャッ
Just...just clean it up!
WHEEEN
CRASH
Clean, unsmudge, immaculify...
SNAP
SNAP
WHAM

RUMBLE
...
RUMBLE
How...?
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
How did this happen...?

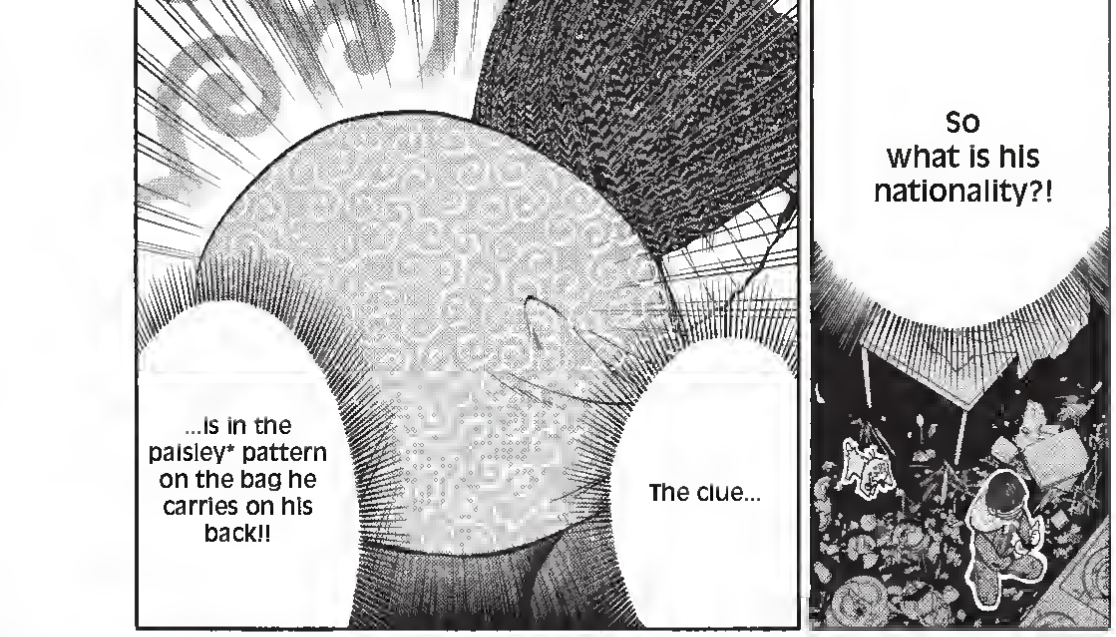
Whoa...!
WINCE
OFF TO THE POUND WITH YOU!!
This will certainly do nothing to improve the lady's disposition...
SHUDDER
KWAH!
What? No, that's not...
Are the dogcatchers here for me already?
Who's there?!
And sunglasses!!
A ski cap
He's wearing a mask
He carries a bag with an intricate pattern on it!!
His shoes are still on his feet!!

DUUUN
His dress indicates that he is...!!
What the hell? Somebody beat me in here.


I have already determined his identity!!
The brain of the unparalleled super-sleuth is working at full capacity!

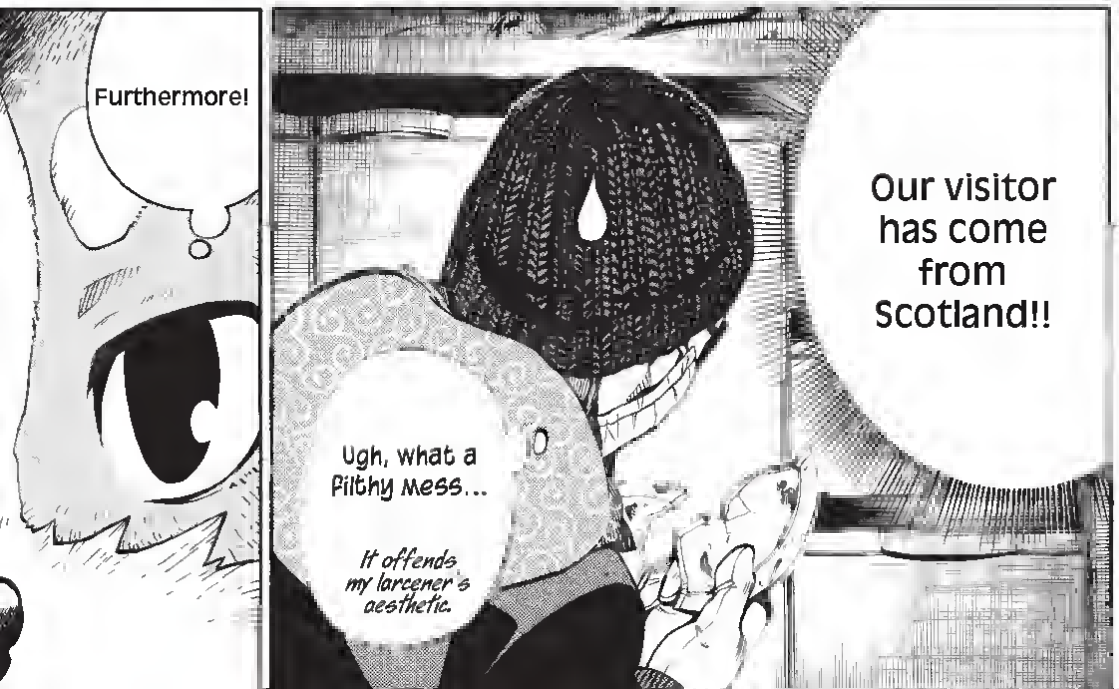

Heh heh heh! I can see it all.
Man, this place is a disaster area.
This isn't just a break-in, it's downright robbery.
SMIRK

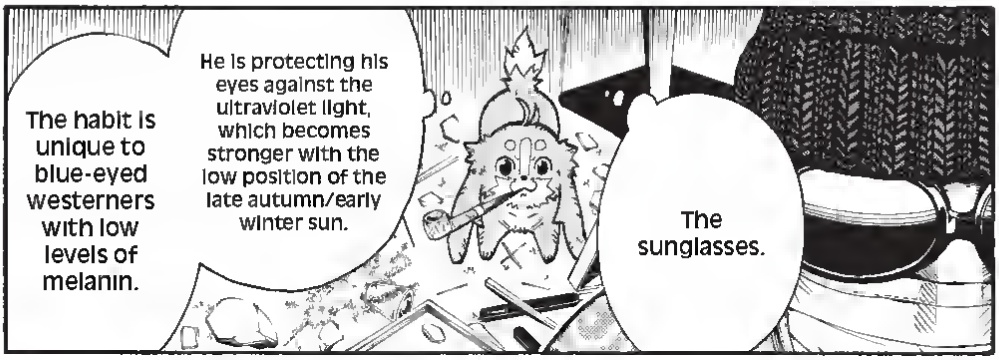
Only a very few peoples have a custom of removing their shoes upon entering a home.
Outside of certain Eastern cultures such as Japan,
Ergo he must be a westerner.
First, he came into the house without removing his shoes.

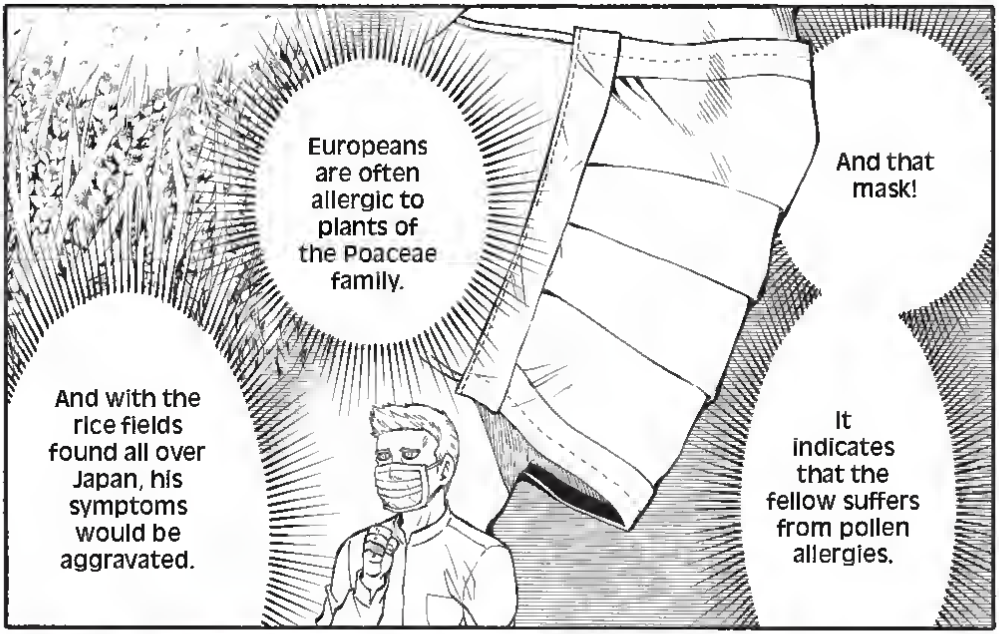


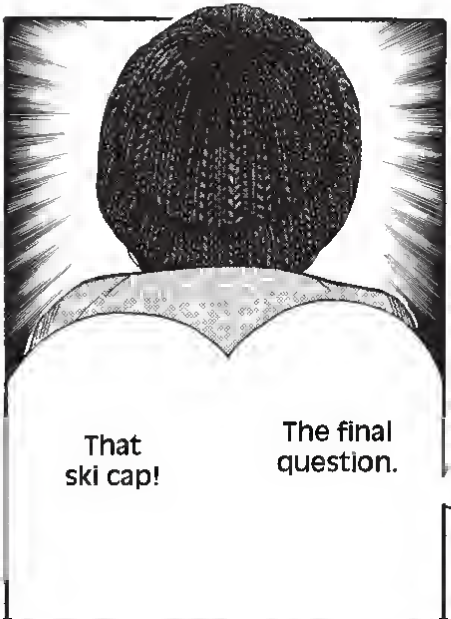
*The pattern is actually a Japanese style arabesque, not paisley.

And so it came to be called Paisley. Therefore...
Paisley
Scotland
Thence, textiles with this pattern were mass-produced in Paisley, Scotland at the beginning of the nineteenth century
The design originated in Persia, but traveled through India to Great Britain during colonial times.




The habit is unique to blue-eyed westerners with low levels of melanin.
He is protecting his eyes against the ultraviolet light, which becomes stronger with the low position of the late autumn/early winter sun.
The sunglasses.

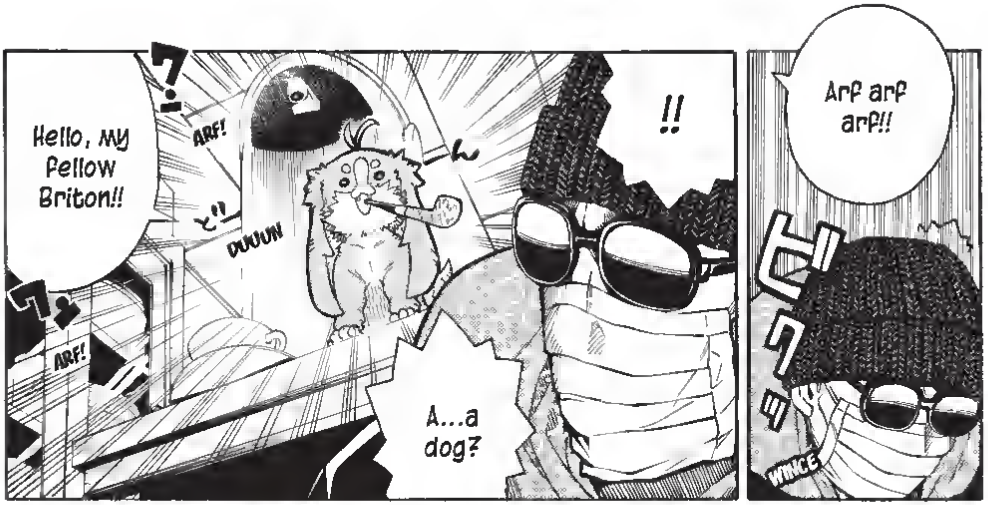

Europeans are often allergic to plants of the Poaceae family.
And with the rice fields found all over Japan, his symptoms would be aggravated.
And that mask!
It indicates that the fellow suffers from pollen allergies.

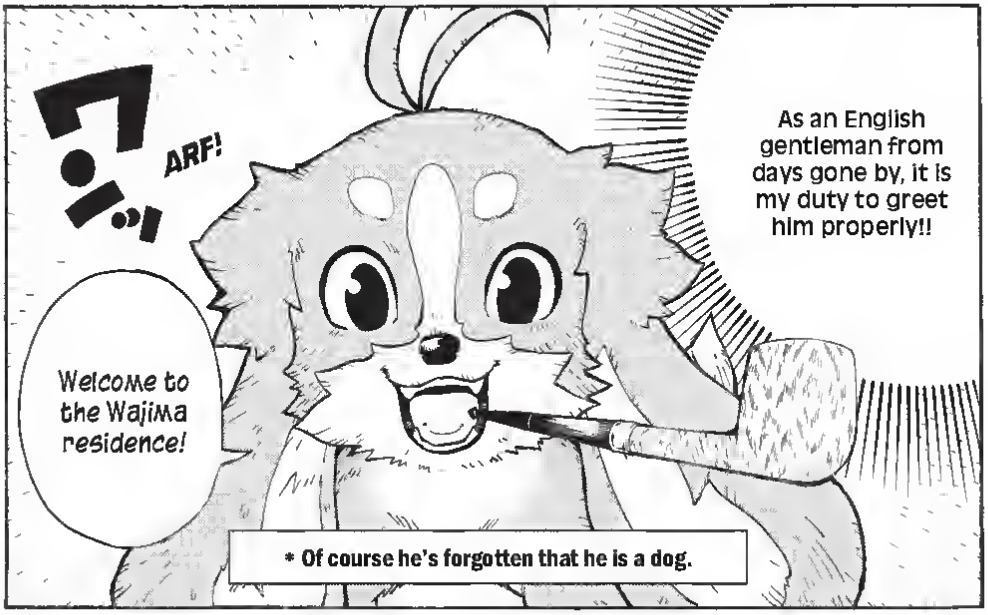

That ski cap!
The final question.

My allergy theory is sound...
Hmm...
Really? He had to spill pepper everywhere, too?
Achoo!!

Now then...
Heh. Even forced into a dog's body, the great Holmes is still in top form!!

...has always had a deep connection to Europe, England in particular.
There is no mistaking that the Wajima family...
As indicated by the fact that my favorite pipe from 100 years ago was found resting on their mantelpiece
And yet he wears a ski cap.
There are very few places in Japan where one can go skiing at this time of year.
Ski Resort
He must have a reason!
...then came to visit his friend, the man of the house here, in Japan...
Ergo, our guest...
...first enjoyed some off-peak season skiing in the Alps, most likely in Switzerland...
...after which he will return home to Scotland!!


Hello, my fellow Briton!!
ARF!
DUUUN
!!
ARF!
A...a dog?
Arf arf arf!!
WHICE

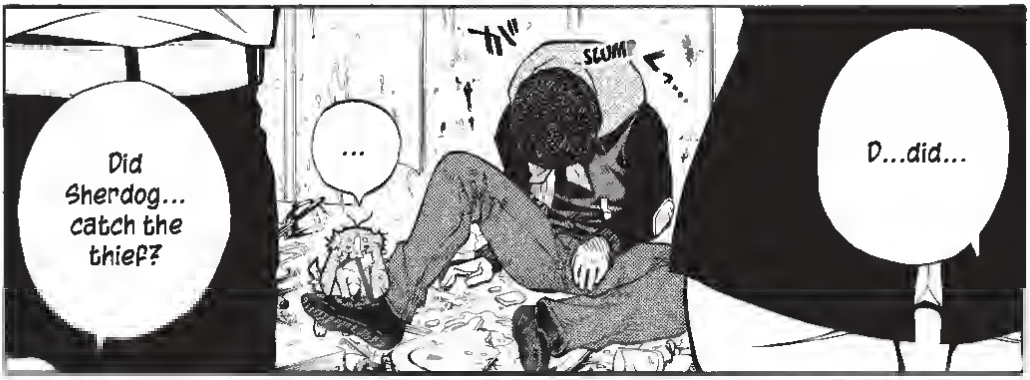

ARF!
As an English gentleman from days gone by, it is my duty to greet him properly!!
Welcome to the Wajima residence!
* Of course he's forgotten that he is a dog.

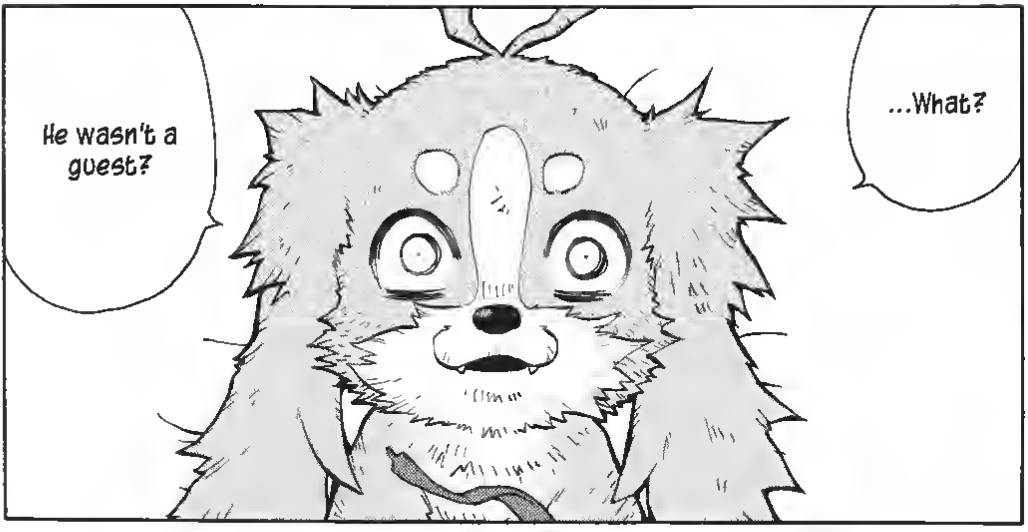
Allow me to...
WOBBLE

Might I offer you some coffee?
OOF...
They have a dog...

HO-HOT! HOT HOT!!
SIZZZLE
SPLASH
I'M gonna kill y—
SHOOWK
Y...you stupid dog!
N...no!! I've spilled hot water on our guest!
PUFF PUFF
YIP YIP YIP
We're home!
KACHAK
Gyaaa...! Don't...don't bite me!!
ARE ARE ARE!!
O-oh no! You're bleeding! Please remove your shoes!!
O-owww!! G... glass! Broken glass!
WHAM
SLAM!

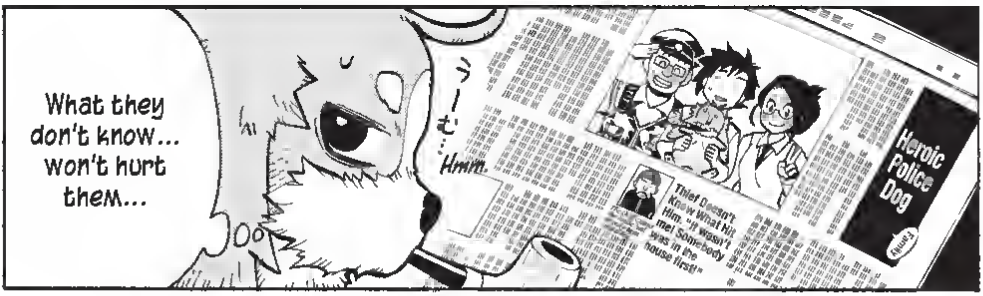
It was him! His outfit just screams intruder!!
Wh-what the—!!
What happened to our house?!
Come quietly, you...
Airin Wajima (24)
Takeru's sister. Inspector, Violent Crimes Division
Kōsuke Wajima (48)
Takeru's father, police sergeant
...
P... POLICE ...?
WH...
WHY ME...?

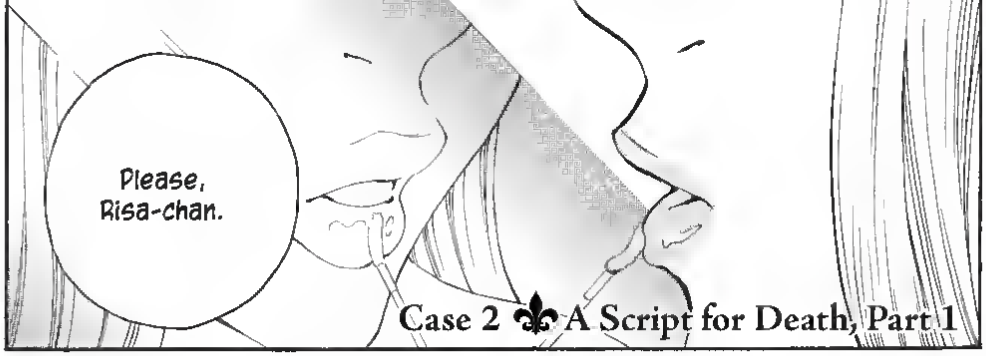

Did Sherdog... catch the thief?
...
SLUMP
D...did...


He wasn't a guest?
...What?

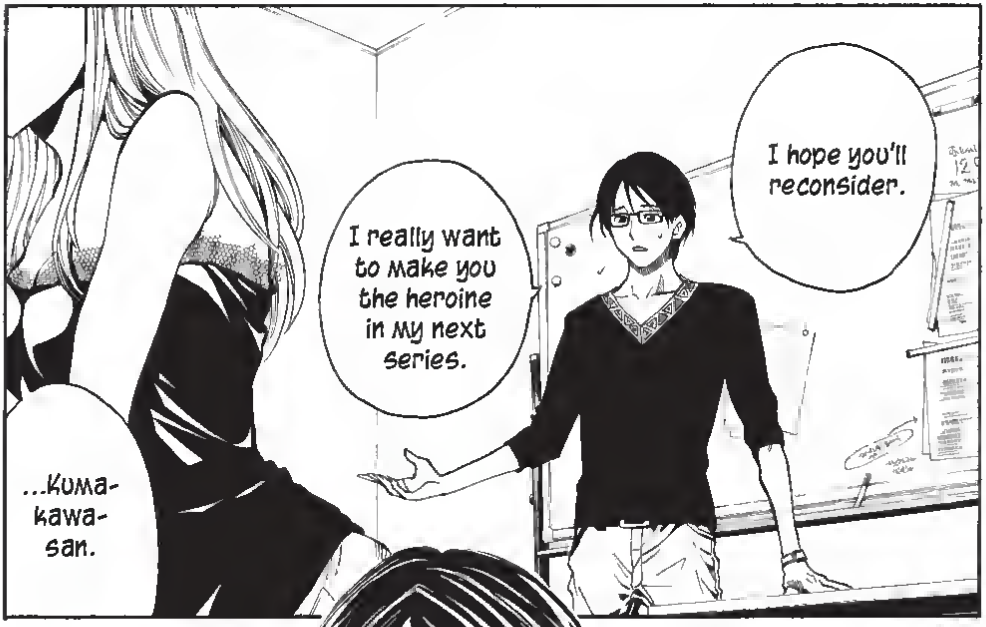
...
Whoa, really Airin-nēchan?! That's awesome Sherdog!!
It's true! The thief from all those break-ins!
We found Sherdog biting him, throwing hot water on him... He caught him!

We'll have to take good care of this one!! Right, Mom?
No kidding!
You saved our whole house!
...
...
Ha ha ha!
はっはっは
なで
PET
なで
PET


What they don't know... won't hurt them...
うーむ…
Hmm.
Heroic Police Dog
Thief Doesn't Know What Hit Him - "It wasn't me! Somebody was in the house first!"



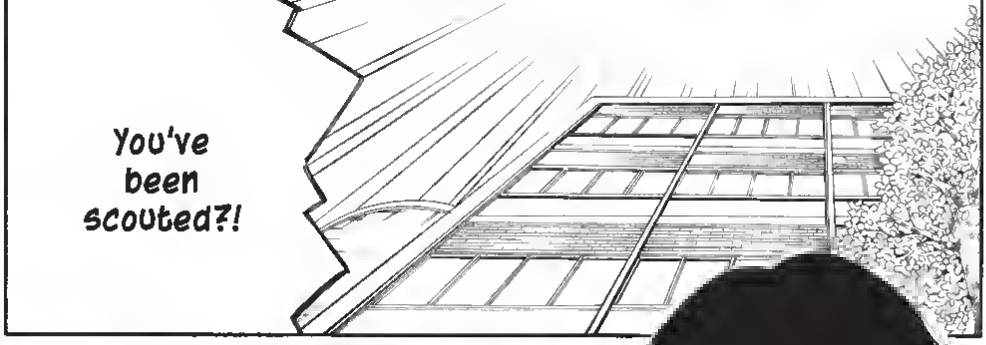
Case 2 ⚜ A Script for Death, Part 1



I still haven't forgiven you.
...And I never will.

...
PATTER
PERK
Kumakawa-san, Risa-chan. We're ready for you!
Oh!
Okay!♡
I'm coming!! ♡♡
KACHAK
KNOCK KNOCK
Oh, don't be like that.
Come in.

!
Is this...?
!
CLATTER
What are all these fan letters doing in the trash?
Sigh... If the staff saw how she was treating her fan mail...
Kumakawa-san?
Sorry. I'm right behind you.
CLACK
CLACK
...


You've been scouted?!

Grr!
Looks pretty shady to me...
You hear about it all the time. They say they'll make you a star, then they sell you off somewhere...

Anyway, she said they had a bit part for me in some movie they're filming.
This is her card.
Shh! Not so loud, Takeru.

It's a super famous talent agency!
SWITCH
Haven't you ever heard of Kodan Talent Management?

ARF!
You sound worried, Watson.
CLATTER
ひょっ
POP
?!
It's more than just famous! They represent *the* Yūji Kumakawa!
And the idol Risa Kawai!
I've heard she's kind of a brat, but she's so cute.
...
SQUEE
SQUEE
Hey, Miki! Aren't you a big fan of Yūji Kumakawa's?
This could be your chance to get close to him!
Lucky!
Hee hee! You think so?
MIK...!
Heh. Anyway. I know how you feel, Watson.
MUNCH
JERKY
Huh?
ARF
Sherdog, shake!!
You see?
Here, Sherdoggy! Want some jerky?
Say aah!
So cute♡
CHOMP
SHOONK
THIS HAS GONE TOO FAR...
ARF
What?! Why not?!
And it's SherLOCK!
PANIC PANIC
What the— Sherdog! I told you not to show your face in class!
SHOVE SHOVE
FLAIL FLAIL
ARF
Huh?
Everyone knows you hide me in your bag every day.
You're not fooling anyone.
ARF

You're just a dog.
Heh. Yeah right.
I'm really having a hard time buying this "Holmes" business.
KER-THWACK
Even I, Sherlock Holmes, have felt the loneliness, the heartbreak...
The object of your secret affections is passing out of your reach.
If you're really so worried...
チラ
GLANCE
You're the one getting irritated!
That packs a punch!
FSH! FSH!
Golden Right Paw
ARF
Now, now, no need to be so irritated, Watson.
...Huh?
Kodan Talent Management
Chief Manager
Yoshiko Yamada
...I have an idea for you.

4
They may...
...go after you next.
うる
WIGGLE
うる
WIGGLE
But there are some things you should keep to yourself!
Akaboshi-san! ...You may be a great detective...
Ayaka Asakura-san!!
ヒィ"
WINCE
!!
Cuuut!!!
I have no intention of...
Uh...I...
HUG
But never mind!
We'll be alone tonight... ♡

Hey, kid! Get these props, too!
Argh... my back hurts!
And humble as ever!
You were perfect, Kumakawa-chan! It was just like I pictured it! The role of chivalrous detective Hikaru Akaboshi was made for you!
That was great! Good job!!
You're too kind, sir!
I heard you charged into the management office without an appointment and demanded they give you a job.
...You really surprised me.
Miki!
GASP WHEEZE
GASP WHEEZE
Y-yessir!
No slacking off!!
TAP
Takeru.
Uh...oh, you know...
Worried about me...are you?
Y... you're not...
...

Oh.
...
Actually, I've always been interested in show business.
And, uh, yeah! I'm a fan of, uh...Risa Kawai-chan? Yeah!!
ペラペラ
BLAH BLAH
ペラペラ
BLAH BLAH
Just... shut up.
Eeeeeee! ♡
That's what it means to be young, Watson.
And before you have time to think, you say things you don't mean.
...
PAT
Uh...
すたすた
SHFF
SHFF
Well, good luck with your new job.
ひょい
YOINK
Where did this puppy come from? He's soooo cute!!! ♡♡♡
?!

CLATTER
Huh? Uh, yes.
What's his name?
Hey, is this your dog?
R...Risa Kawai...chan!!
In person!!
GRIN...
SQUIIISH
Sherdog? Sounds smart! ♡
Sher-lock!!
Sh... Sherdog!
Y-yes'm?
Hey, Mr. Production Assistant.
Can I borrow your puppy? Just for today?
I adore wittle doggies! ♡
Huh? I don't know...
PRESS

B-DMP
Pretty please...?
♡
WIGGLE WIGGLE
Y-yes, Ma'am! Keep him as long as you like!!
My dear Watson!!
A-ARF?!
...

Eek!
WHAM
Whoops.

...That stupid Takeru!
SAP
IRK
SCRUNCH
Ogling that little tramp...

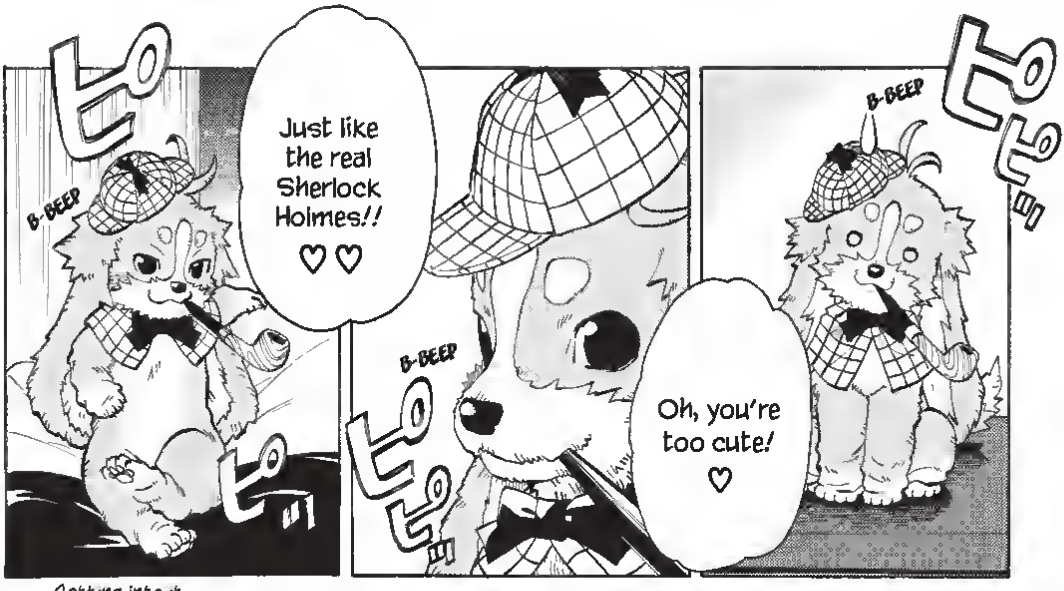
As my assistant, this is very irresponsible of you! And I thought you had feelings for Miki Arisaka!
ARF
Oh! My name's Takeru Wajima!
Thanks so much! Um-
It's no use. I just can't resist that smile.
Forgive me, Sherdog.

Are you... the new girl our chief manager scouted?
...Oh!
!!
I'm so sorry. Are you okay?
Y...yes. My name's Miki Arisaka.
Y...Yūji Kumakawa... san!!

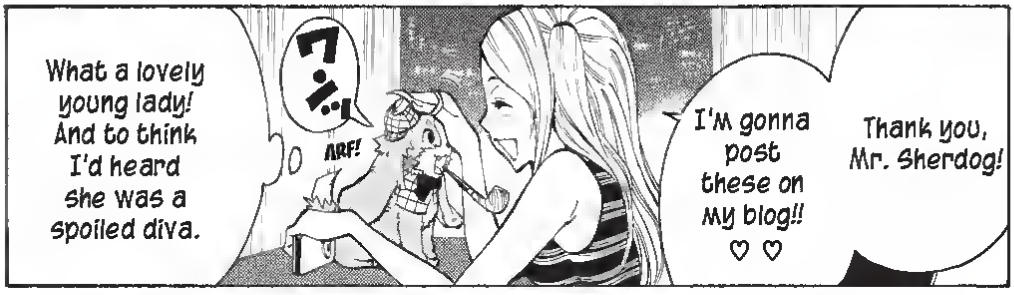
...
Wow... He's just too dreamy...
See you later!
Th-thank you very much!
There's a big market for girl-next-door types right now.
POI
PAT
Miki-chan, then! Break a leg!

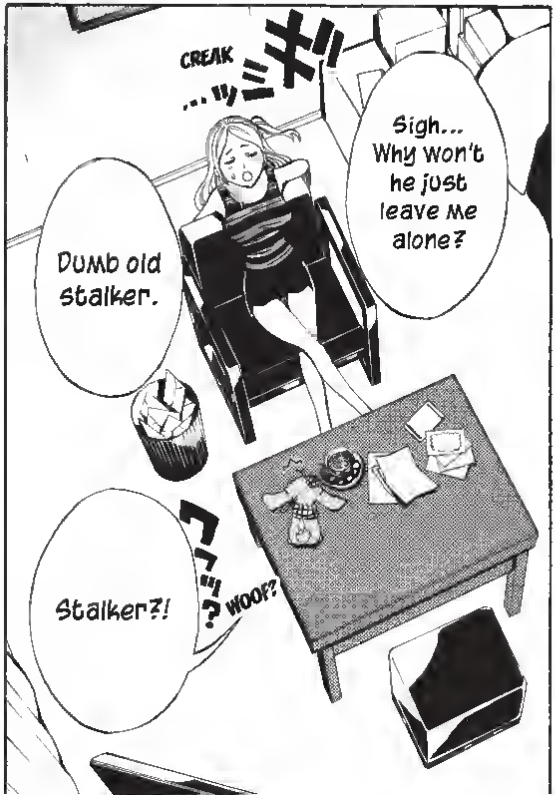
HOT HOT HOT!
あちい
SCRUNCH...
DRIP DRIP
Paper cup
What... what's she getting all red for? Stupid Miki...

You'll be sleeping with me tonight, Sherdog! ♡
RUMMAGE RUMMAGE
ゴソゴソ
B-DMP
B-DMP
Being a dog might not be so bad!
But first...
WOOF?!
What!
My first time sharing a bed with a woman in my new life... I never dreamed it would happen like this.
Oh no...
RUMMAGE
RUMMAGE
Oh!
Tadah!
It's time for a photo shoot!
...Oh well.
I'll just use this.
And... there!

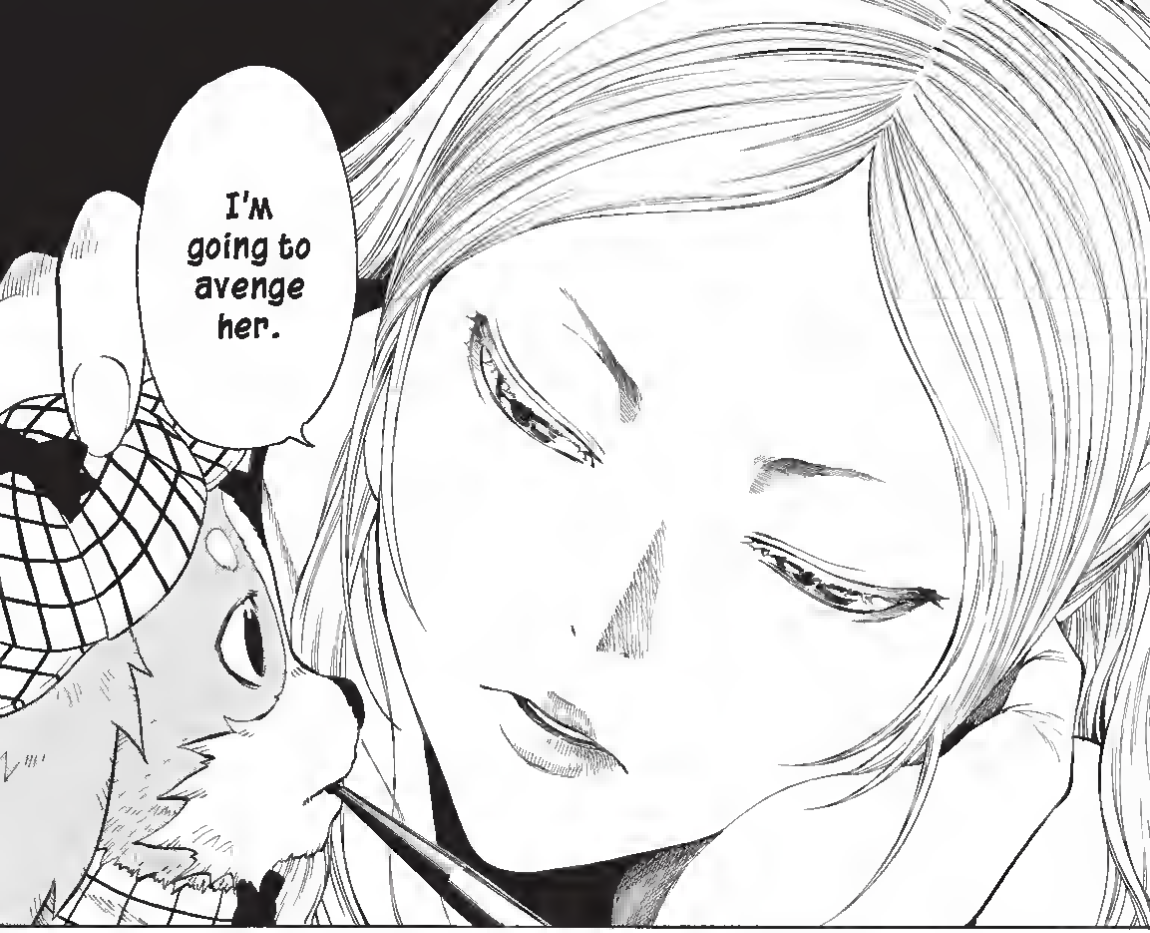


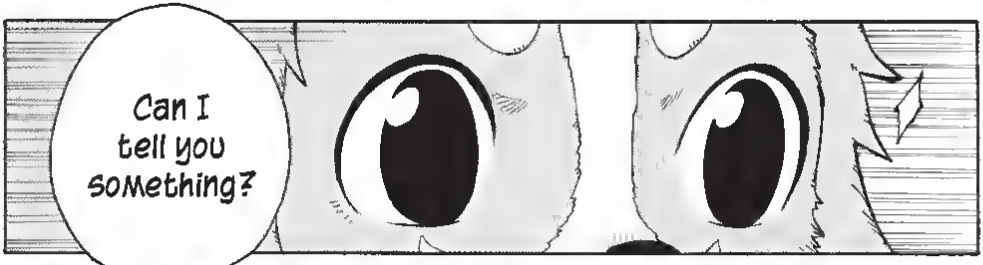
Getting into it.





ワンワン!!
ARF
ARF
As a matter of fact!! I may not look it, but I am in fact the pride of England!
The world-famous detective, the one and only Sherlock Holmes!!
...I wish they'd arrest him, too.
If only you were the real Sherlock Holmes...
"Sherdog," huh?
ワン!!
ARF
Grr! How could the police of Japan let this go unchecked?
After a while, it got scary...
It didn't bother me at first, but...
He's been sending me a lot more letters recently.
ワン!!
ARF!
With me at your side, you have nothing to fear! I'll catch this stalker in one fell swoop!
HEE
ワフ
Thanks, Sherdog.
Not that you understand me... heh heh.
Wajima-kun, was it? I hate to take his dog... but I just couldn't stand the thought of being alone tonight.
...Because... tonight...
"Tonight"?
クゥ〜ン?
WHIMPER?


I'm going to avenge her.


Can I tell you something?

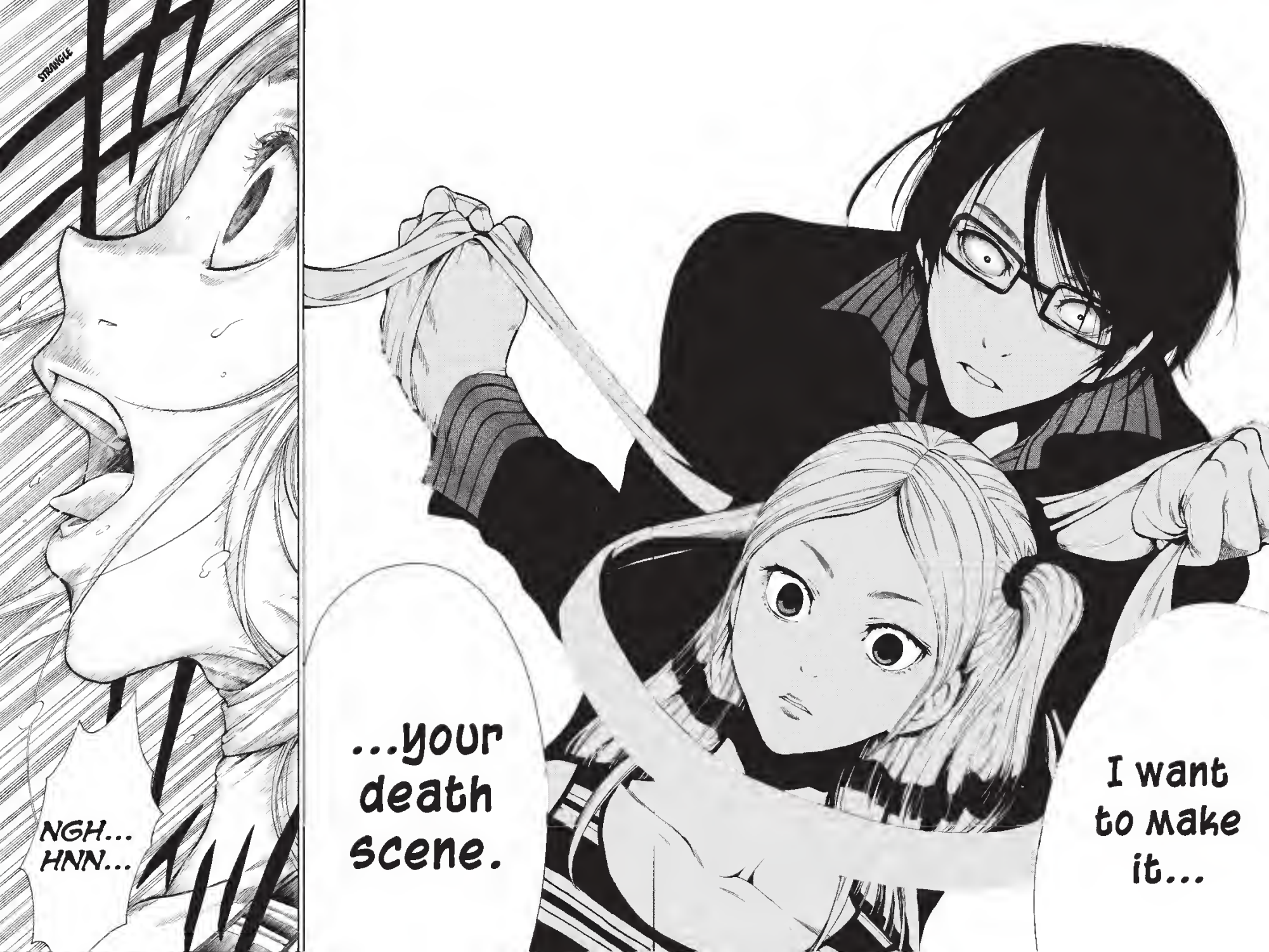
Hee! It's like we're really talking!
Just what are you...?
WHIMPER

Her slimebag of a boyfriend betrayed her.
Ami Takahara Commits Suicide
My very best friend was in show business, too.
She killed herself last month.

I'll post the text messages Ami sent me...
...and expose all of his evil deeds on my blog.
When we're done filming...
And you see... It really makes me angry...
...That I have to be in a movie with that sleazeball.
Hikaru Akaboshi: The Chivalrous Detective
Tonight, I'm going to get my hands on some proof.
I'll make sure he can't talk his way out of it.
Oh, no, Sherdog! Don't run around the table!
P-pardon me! What have I done!
ARF!
ARF!
ARF!
FLUSTER FLUSTER
KNOCK KNOCK
!!
Miss Risa...
SPLASH
ARF!
Wh-What do you mean?

I came to run lines with you, like I promised.
It's me. Kuma-kawa.
!!
Risa-chan.
Just a minute!
...
And no talking about you-know-what until the shoot's over.
I'm afraid I don't "know what."
Sorry, Sherdog. I need you to stay here.
SHUT

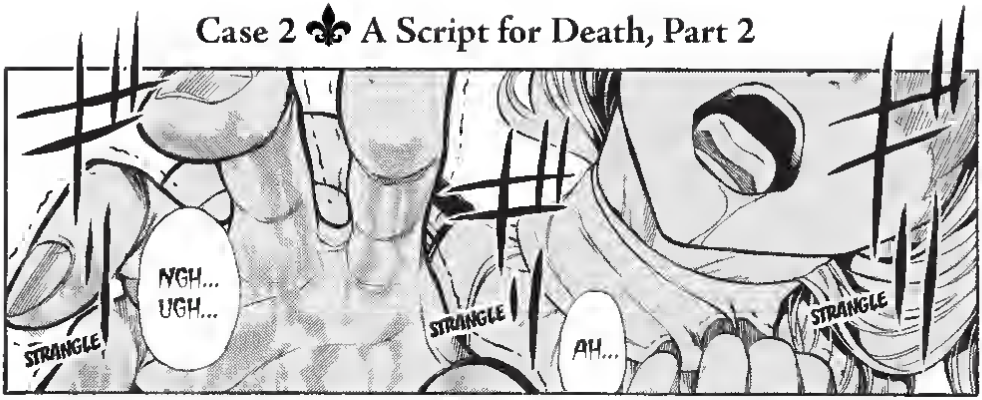
Actually, there was one part I wanted to discuss with you.
...Okay, never mind. Let's get started.
...Oh, don't change the subject.
It's our last scene...number 21. I wanted to make a small change...
FWOOSH
Hikaru Akaboshi: The Chameleon Detective
What ...?


STRANGLE
NGH...
HNN...
...your death scene.
I want to make it...

STRANGLE
STRANGLE
STRANGLE
STRANGLE
...destroy my career.
GAH...
NGH... GHH...
I'M not going to let a little prima donna like you...

...
I hope Sherdog is okay...

What in the blazes is going on out there?!
What...?


NGH...
UGH...
STRANGLE
STRANGLE
AH...
STRANGLE
STRANGLE

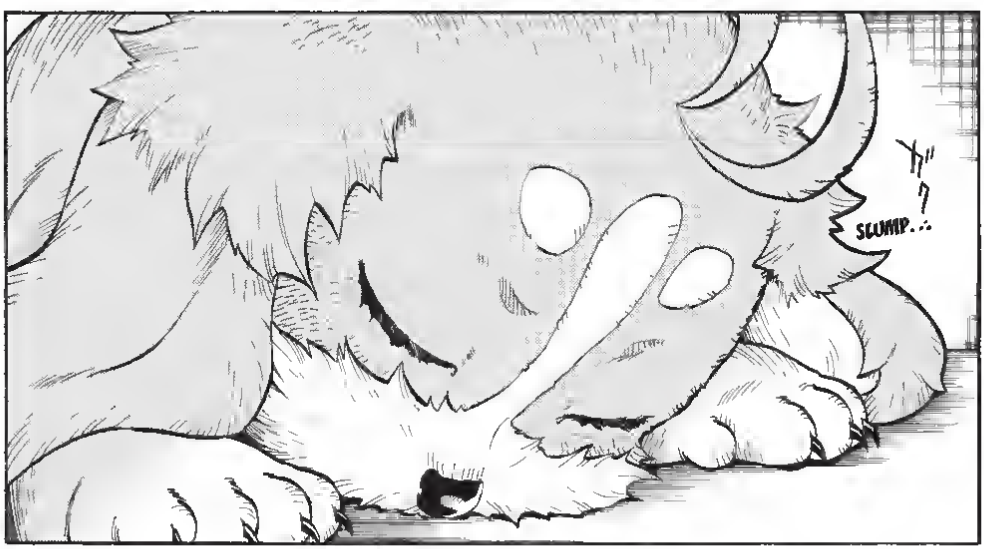
BAM
Hikaru
Akaboshi:
The Chivalrous
Detective
SHERLOCK BONES

Miss Risa! What happened?!
?!
Good! It's open!!
KACHAK

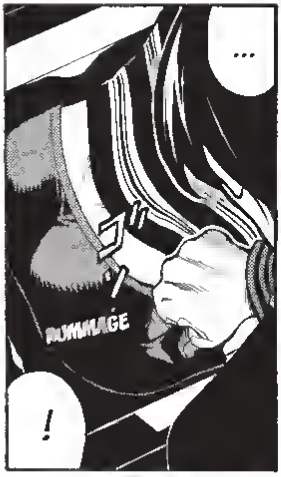
Miss Risa!!
!
SCAMPER
I'M so sorry to tell you, but your master is no longer with us.
What? A dog? Heh...
...That hurts.
GRIT...
Damn you!!
CHOMP

Damn dog!!
FLING
BAM!
Yip!!

SWOON
N...no... If only I were human...
I could easily...
...beat him... to the ground...


SLUMP...

Now.
SNAP


...
RUMMAGE
!

Ugh... What a filthy mess...
SS
She got cocoa on my script.

How cute.

AN IC RECORDER. I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN SHE'D HAVE ONE OF THESE ON HER.
THE LITTLE BIMBO... SHE WANTED TO GET ME TO TALK ABOUT AMI...
...SO SHE COULD RECORD IT.
I STILL HAVEN'T FORGIVEN YOU.

...to cover my tracks.
I don't have much time...

Maybe I shouldn't have let Risa-chan take Sherdog...
...

I mean...on the inside, he's Sherlock Holmes, right?
And that means he's a grown man.
SHLE
SHLE
HUGGA
HUGGA
Don't Mind if I do!♡
NIBBLE LICK
DRAIN
M...Miki What... brings you here?
...
They're making a lot of noise next door...
Takeru, it's the middle of the night! What are you shouting about?
I can't let that happen!!
AAAHHH!

THAT'S SHERDOG'S BARK!!
That voice... Is that you, Watson?!
ARF
The door is unlocked! Come in here, quickly!!

But I'm hearing a dog barking...
It's supposed to be Risa-chan's room.
ARF... ARF...
Huh...?

You can't just go—
BAM

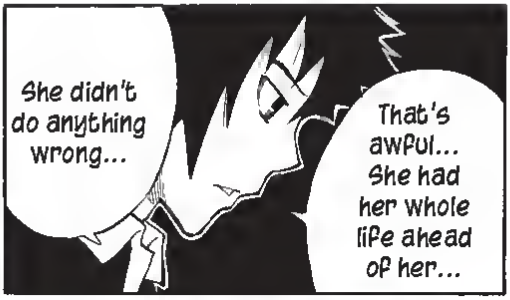
GRAB
H...hey! Takeru?!

Uwaaaah!
Risaichan!!
Kyaaaaaaa!!

Uh...right!
PATTER PATTER
STAGGER...
Go to the lobby and get help!
...
M...Miki, don't look!
What... what happened?
Sher-dog...
...
SHUT
Murder... as you can clearly see.
I was shut up in the bathroom. When I made it out...it was too late.
...Wait. That means... you know who killed her.
Yes, I saw him clear as day.
Yes, thank-fully...
You did? Are you okay?
But I did bite him as hard as I could...
By heavens, this is the greatest regret of the renowned Sherlock Holmes!

Th...the good-looking actor? But he seemed so nice.
You must never judge people by their appearances, Watson.
Wha—?!
It was Yūji Kuma-kawa!
He must have been planning the murder before he ever entered the room.
...He was wearing gloves.
Now, she will never smile again.
...Such a pity.
FWAH...
She was a nice young woman...who cared very deeply about her friend.
She had her fiery moments...but her smile was genuine...
Watson.
...
Cover her face.
Sherdog...

She wasn't ready to go.
Yes... it is cruel...


She didn't do anything wrong...
That's awful... She had her whole life ahead of her...

The great detective Sherlock Holmes saw his crime!
Leave it to me! The witness you need is right before you!
And that will be his undoing!

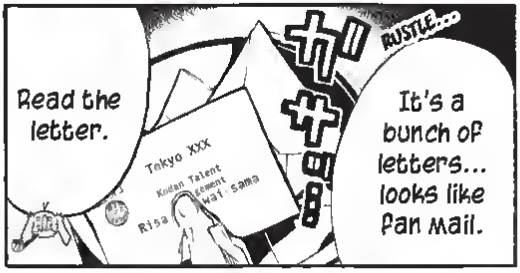
We'll find some proof.
He'll pay...
You won't get away with this...Yūji Kumakawa!!

Y-yes, sir!!
HURRY UP!!
Hey, I'm the owner here!
Don't leave any finger-prints!!
Now's our chance to look for clues!
DASH

SLUMP
Therein lies the problem...
...But you're a dog.

ARF!
...is inside the waste basket!!
The first place to look, Watson...
You got it!
ZSH

Yes... Now that you mention it, she told me as much.
Yikes!
Whoa... she was being stalked, Sherdog!


Read the letter.
RUSTLE...
It's a bunch of letters... looks like fan mail.

...Yes, but...
She told you about it?
CHICK

I WISH THEY'D ARREST THE STALKER, TOO...
HE'S BEEN SENDING ME A LOT MORE LETTERS RECENTLY IT'S GETTING SCARY.
...

What next, Sherdog?
...

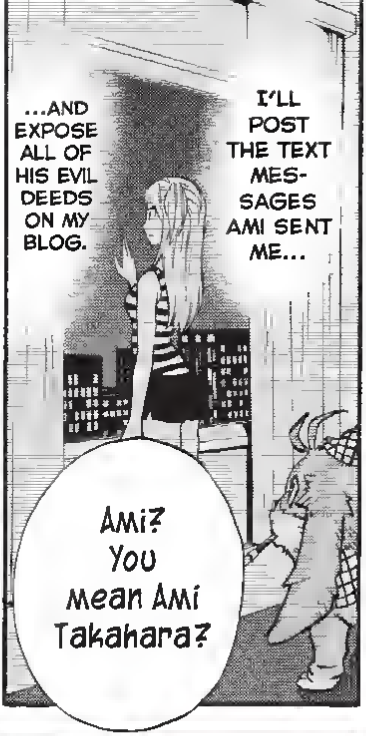
Her cell phone.
Next...there, beside her.
When she took me...
...into the bathroom...
Huh? Why?
Because, Watson.
It was still charging!
...I saw the phone on the counter.

...it's beside her. That means...
But now...

I hate to invade the lady's privacy...but let's have a look at her call history.
Exactly.
...and moved it here?
Kumakawa deliberately unplugged it...
Y... yeah...
He must have had a reason.

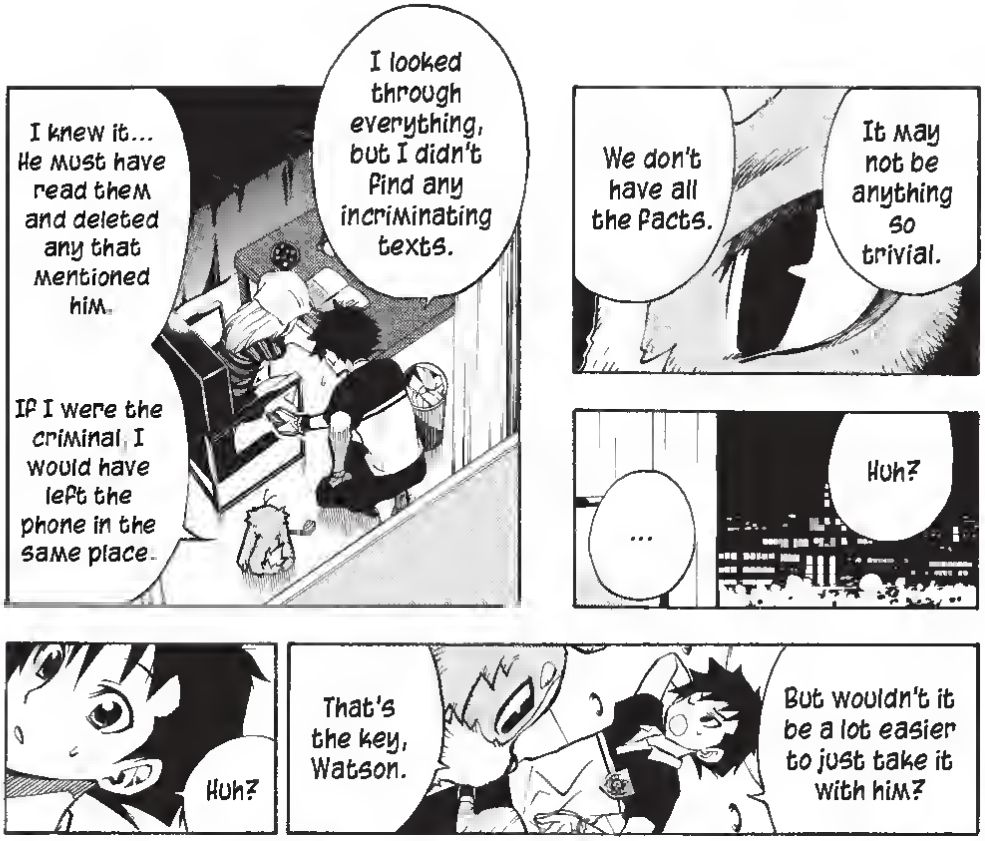
HER SLIME-BAG OF A BOYFRIEND BETRAYED HER.
MY VERY BEST FRIEND WAS IN SHOW BUSI-NESS, TOO. SHE KILLED HERSELF LAST MONTH.
But I remember her saying...
I'M not finding anything impor-tant...
HMM...
I see... And texts?
I'M finding a lot of names and numbers, but I can't make heads or tails of it.

AM TAKAHARA
Huh? How do you know?
I'm pretty sure she's the new idol that killed herself a month ago.
She was getting really popular, too.
PERKY PIMPS
Ami Takahara
Where do you wanna go today?


...AND EXPOSE ALL OF HIS EVIL DEEDS ON MY BLOG.
I'LL POST THE TEXT MES-SAGES AMI SENT ME...
Ami? You mean Ami Takahara?

He killed Risa-chan... just to keep her quiet?!
...So he wanted to hide the fact...that he's why she committed suicide.

That's it...the Motive!


I looked through everything, but I didn't find any incriminating texts.
I knew it... He must have read them and deleted any that mentioned him.
If I were the criminal, I would have left the phone in the same place.
We don't have all the facts.
It may not be anything so trivial.
...
Huh?
Huh?
That's the key, Watson.
But wouldn't it be a lot easier to just take it with him?
...would bring those text messages out into public view.
In other words, he must have assumed that a police investigation...
Any text messages on the phone may still be in her carrier's database.
Surely you can deduce his reasoning?
And if that is the case, then why would the killer deliberately leave the phone where the police are sure to find it?

The police would suspect it had something to do with the murder, and then they'd investigate everything about it!!
Right! If the phone had gone missing...
GASP!
...he left it where it could easily be found!
Then, as if the phone was of no concern to him at all...
Quite so, Watson!
So instead, he erased the data relating to himself.
We shall have to proceed with caution.
Indeed...
SHUDDER
And he's clever... This is gonna be tricky!!
...Man, he's got guts.

But there's no card in here for some reason.
It'd be great if she had the texts backed up on a memory card or something.
!!
So how do we get them to investigate the phone?!
I can't just tell them, "My dog saw it!"
Argh.
...
Even with the texts deleted, the police could find something if they just knew where to look.
...
Oh, it's like...
Memory card? What is a memory card?
GRRR...
!
Look at that, Watson.
ガチャ!!
KACHAK
Takeru!
GASP
!!
And one of her friends...
I brought one of the hotel staff!

...
NOD
Yūji Kumakawa! The criminal returns to the scene!!

There he is, Watson.
Our murderer.
Yūji Kumakawa!
SHERLOCK BONES
Case 2 ⚜ A Script for Death, Part 3

Risa-chan...!
DRIP
Risa...
The police are on their way!!
NNH... HNNH...
...
CLENCH
Nooo-oooo!!
Why...? Why did this have to happen to you?!
SLUMP
P... please, calm down, sir!!

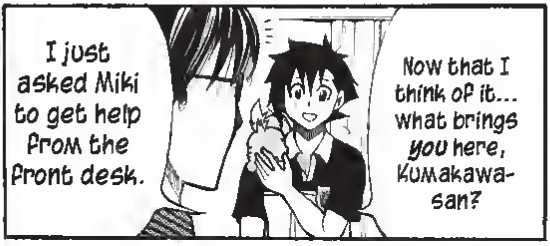
My name is Wajima.
BOW
I'm working part-time on the set.
!
And... you are?
SNIFFLE
GRR...
SS
...My dog, I mean!!
I was letting Risa-chan look after him.
A production assistant? What are you doing *here*?
I got worried and came to check on him. I could hear him all the way down the hall, the way he was barking.
...! THAT DOG WASN'T RISA'S?

...saw whoever it was...
...that did this to Risa-chan.
And that means the dog...
Oh, I see. So that's why you're here...
Yes, sir.
...
And this dog belongs to you?
GRRR
...?
!!
He sank his teeth right into my arm!
I saw Risa-chan holding him after filming, and I tried to pet him.
SS
Well, look what he did!

Ha ha ha. That's all right! He must be very shy, but he is very cute.
ARF
Lies! I only attacked you because you killed Miss Risa!!
I'm sorry, Kumakawa-san.
Sher-dog!
ARF
ARF
...
NOD
This man...
...Can think on his feet.
GRRR...
To think he'd reveal that he's been bitten, to prevent it from coming up later.
He's a more formidable opponent than I thought, Watson.
...that I am the reincarnation of Sherlock Holmes, and that I have told you the truth of this case.
But even in his dreams, he would never realize...

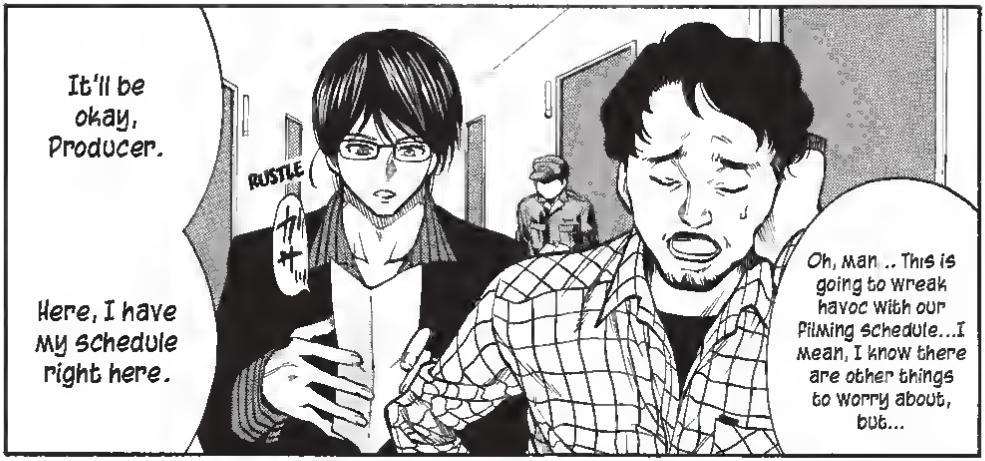
It's a battle of wits, Watson!!
We will find a gap in his defenses!
...And I'm ready!!
GULP...

Police!
Will you all please vacate the room!
TROMP
TROMP

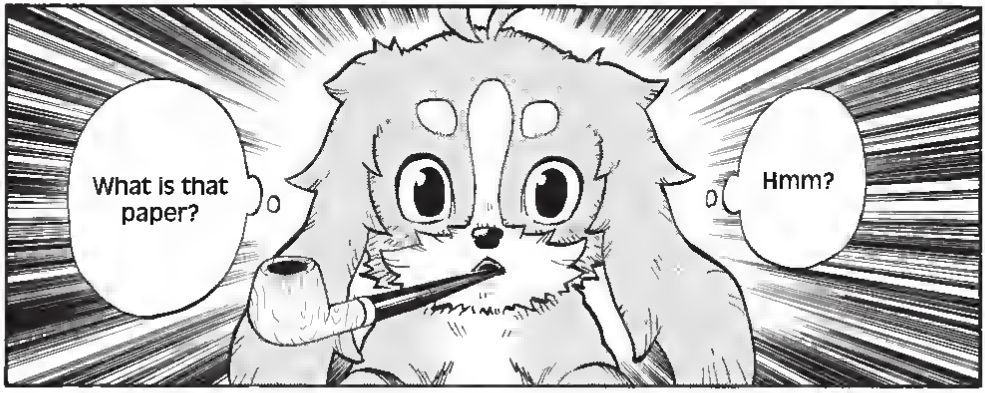

I just asked Miki to get help from the front desk.
Now that I think of it... what brings *you* here, Kumakawa-san?

I asked what it was all about and now here I am. ...I couldn't just walk away.
CHAK
...I happened to come across some excitement in the lobby.

RATTLE
RATTLE
Ms. Yamada, get a hold of yourself!
Risa-chan... Risa-chan...!!
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
Risa-chan, why...? Nn... hnngh...
...
Risa-chan...
...Don't worry!
GRIN
They'll catch the killer! I promise!!
Miki.
I never thought I'd actually see a murder.
TUG
Takeru... I'm scared.


It'll be okay, Producer.
RUSTLE
Here, I have my schedule right here.
Oh, man... This is going to wreak havoc with our filming schedule...I mean, I know there are other things to worry about, but...

Hey...you're right! May I see that schedule?
This was the only scene Risa-chan had left to film.
If we make this part into a monologue...


What is that paper?
Hmm?

Mr. Detective.
Yes? What is it?
Hello? Yes, this is Iijima. Is the director in?
What?! He got drunk and fell asleep? Well, wake him up!
...
SS
We discovered the body.
We saw the scene right after the crime. If there's anything I can help you with...
Th-thank you... but...
...Actually, Risa-chan and I spent a lot of time together as co-stars.
She confided in me.
I may be able to help you find the killer.
!

He's plotting something!
Maybe...
Is he trying to gauge how the investigation is going, or...?
Kumakawa has made a move!!
ARF!

BAM
My sister is a detective in the Violent Crimes Division!!
See? She sent me this picture when she got her assignment!
UMM, excuse me!!
Can we help, too?!

I'll just call them and make sure it's okay.
BEEP
BEEP
H... have they?
Actually, my family's been a police family since my grandpa's time!
What?

ARF
I know she's your sister, but how did you convince her, Watson?
HEH HEH.
I didn't. I made it up.
You don't mind, do you, Detective?
My sister told us to help out with the investigation.
SNAP
Well... she is in Violent Crimes...
We have a time limit.
I'll be there in an hour! You understand me, Takeru?!
I've been notified! You do everything the police tell you!
My sister's a total stickler for the rules...
...or they won't let us civilians near the scene of the crime again!
ARF!
Right! One hour!!
ZSH
One hour!
We'd better solve this by then...

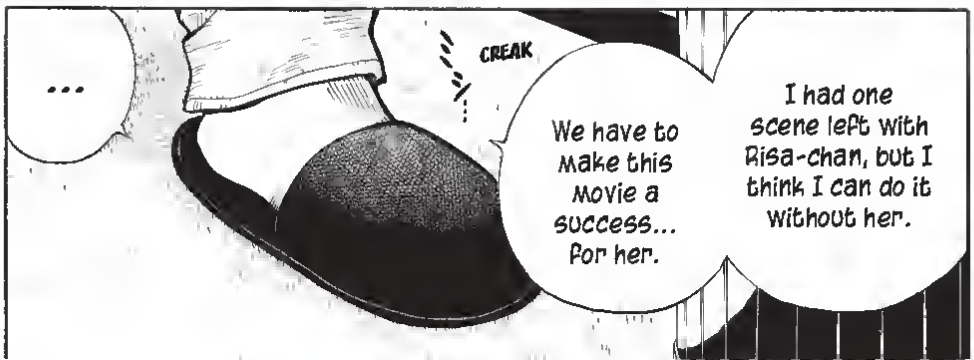
But what a surprise. So your sister is in Violent Crimes.
...Well, y'know.
...But hey, if you find the killer, you'll make the news, Kumakawa-san.

They'll be like... "The movie detective turns real detective."
Ha ha ha. I don't know if I can be *that* help-ful.
...Wow, you *are* a pro.
What?

Just a minute ago, you saw Risa-chan and burst into tears.
But now you're smiling.
I guess actors are really good...
...at flipping the switch on their emotions.

Oh...I'm sorry. You just made me think of Risa-chan sitting there, and...
...!
Ha ha... I'm hopeless. I thought...I could act cool about this...
DRIP
DRIP
Oh! Kuma-kawa-san...
Hey...stop it, Takeru! You're being rude.
DRIP

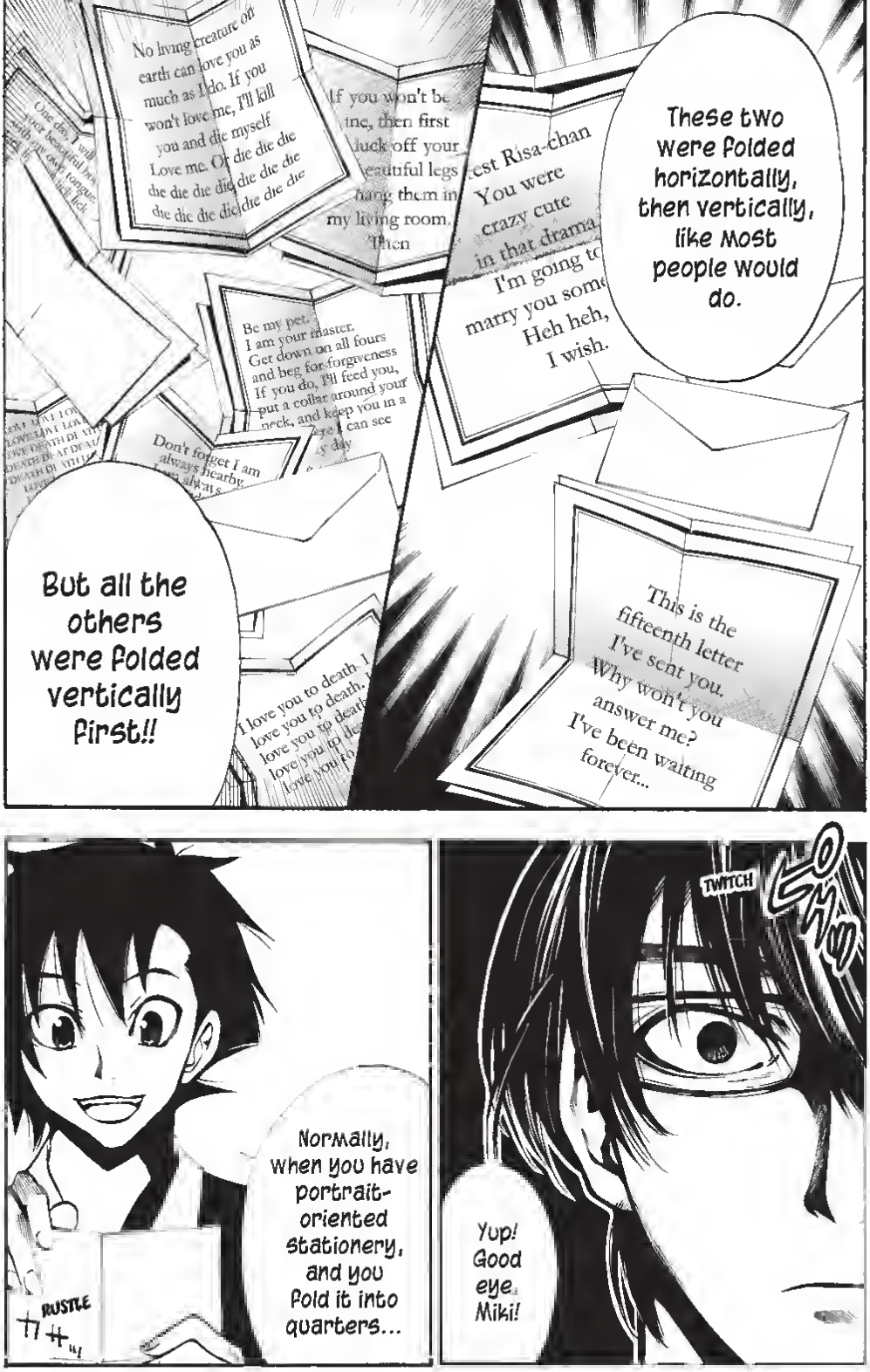
SERIOUSLY, LEAVE IT TO AN ACTOR...
W... WOW...
I'm sorry if...I made you feel uncomfortable, Wajima-kun.
I just...I want to catch the murderer so badly...


...
CREAK
We have to make this movie a success... for her.
I had one scene left with Risa-chan, but I think I can do it without her.

We entertainers don't usually throw our fan mail away like this.
Tokyo XXX
Kaito Talent
Management
Risa Kawai-sama
I see! We'll look into it right away!
Huh?
Huh...? These are...
Detective! I found something!
...I knew it.
They're all in the same style of envelope, on the same stationery.
From a stalker...? There are so many...
What?! Are...are these...
She was worried that she made him angry, and that he'd be back for revenge!!
She made it very clear that she didn't want him there.
She said she'd gotten several letters from a stalker,
and that he came to her on location once.
Knew...? Knew what?

All right...
ARF!
I see his game, Watson!
I know what he's after!
And followed her to her hotel room?
What if the stalker found where she was,
...
PAT
...
What do you mean?
Are they really all from the same person?
These letters.
You think so?
!

Sure, at a glance...
...it seems like they're from the same person, because the stamps and stationery are all the same.
Look.
...They're folded into quarters just like the others.
Ah!
But look at these two.
It's hard to tell, but I think they're folded differently.
If you won't be mine, then first I'll pluck off
Dearest Risa-chan
You were crazy cute
I'm going to marry you someday.
Heh heh,
I wish.
This is the fifteenth letter
Why won't you answer me? I've been waiting forever...
LOVE LOVE LOVE
DEATH DEATH DEATH
One day, I will taste your beautiful body with my own tongue. Lick lick lick lick lick lick
My Risa,
This is the fifteenth letter
I've sent you.

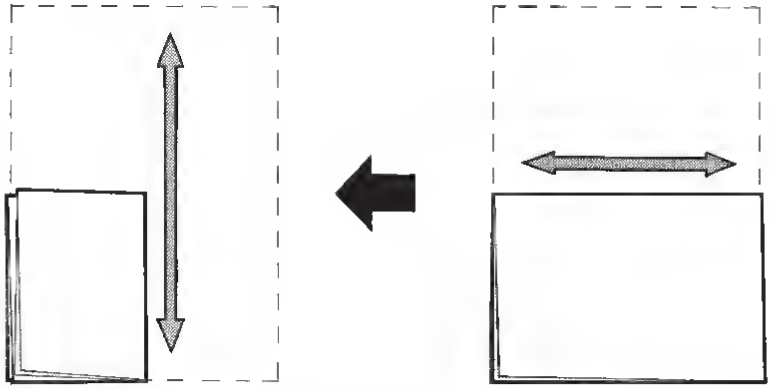

These two were folded horizontally, then vertically, like most people would do.
But all the others were folded vertically first!!
No living creature on earth can love you as much as I do. If you won't love me, I'll kill you and die myself
Love me. Or die die die
Be my pet.
I am your master.
Get down on all fours and beg for forgiveness
If you do, I'll feed you,
This is the fifteenth letter I've sent you.
Why won't you answer me?
I've been waiting forever...
I love you to death.

RUSTLE
Normally, when you have portrait-oriented stationery, and you fold it into quarters...

TWITCH
Yup! Good eye, Miki!

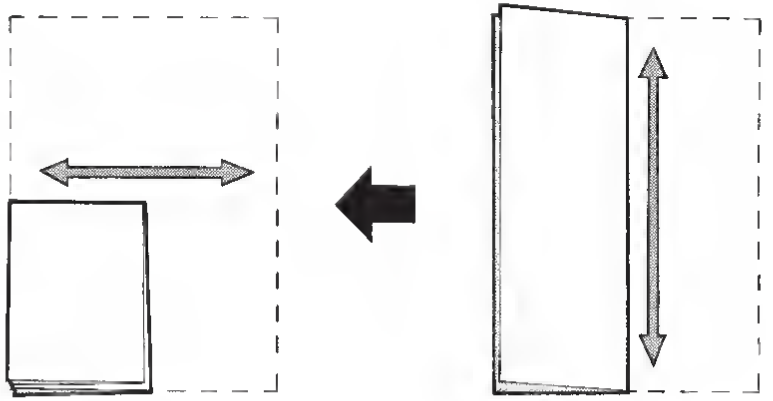
Horizontal first, then vertical—the easy way to do it.

You do it like on these two letters.



It's probably just a habit of whoever sent them.

But all the others letters are folded the other way.



But that's pretty unusual.
Don't you think?
And the content is a little more extreme.
Hmm, now that you mention it...
!
Kuma-chaaan!
I think we can make this movie work!
Oh! Can I see that?
?
$$

This is your schedule, right, Kumakawa-san?
Would you look at that. It's folded the same way!

YOU...
YOU LITTLE BRAT!!
GRIN
Folding vertically first, I mean.
Maybe it's not so unusual after all.

Your schedule's folded the same way.
I guess it's not that unusual after all.
SHERLOCK BONES

?!
ARF!
Right, Sherdog?

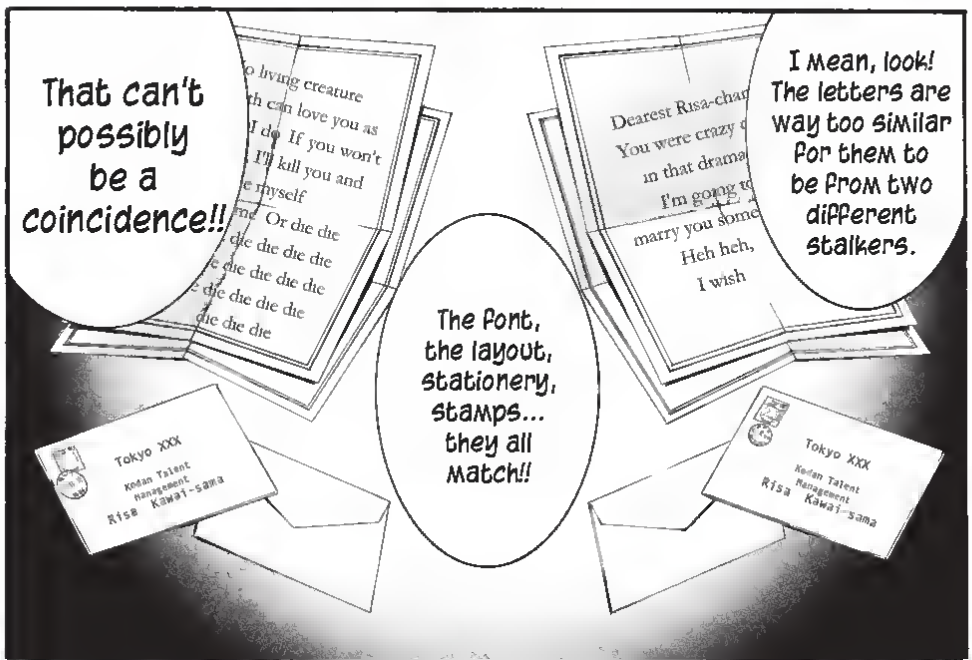
GRIN...
I don't think it's that common.
...No, I agree.
THE LITTLE BRAT!!

Huh? Yes...
Even though these letters are so similar...
...they were actually sent by two different people?
To be honest, I don't know anyone else who folds paper this way.
!
So you're saying...
ARF!
HE KNOWS THAT TRYING TOO HARD TO DENY IT WOULD MAKE HIM LOOK SUSPICIOUS, SO HE'S DIVERTING OUR ATTENTION INSTEAD!
HE...HE STRAIGHT-UP ADMITS IT.
WHAT DO WE DO, SHERDOG?
I get it! Yes, I see now!!
!
Then the letters with the more extreme content, and which are greater in number...
I see... So if you're right, and there are two stalkers...

Th...that detective doesn't seem very professional.
Asking for autographs...
...
S...sure. Why don't I sign it right now?
Um... could I get your autograph later?
Hmm... All the more reason we need to work harder to bring Miss Risa's killer to justice.

That's our Chivalrous Detective!
My wife is a big fan.
So of the two, the stalker that sent eight letters is more likely to be the murderer!
PAT
ポン

Wh-what? What do you mean?
BAM!
Are we sure that whoever sent these letters is a stalker?!
Hold it right there!!

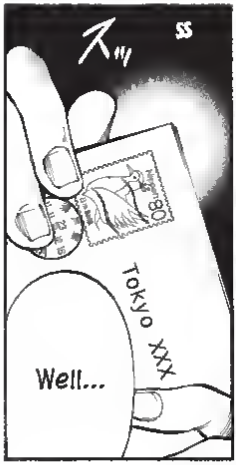

That can't possibly be a coincidence!!
The font, the layout, stationery, stamps... they all match!!
I mean, look! The letters are way too similar for them to be from two different stalkers.
Tokyo XXX
Kodan Talent Management
Risa Kawai-sama
Tokyo XXX
Kodan Talent Management
Risa Kawai-sama

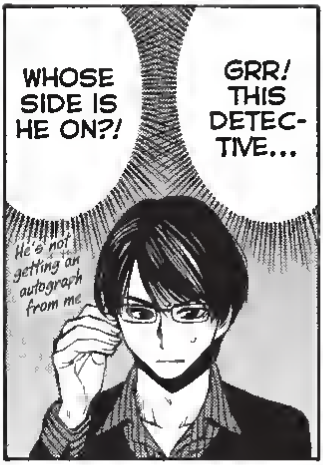
Based on the postmarks, these eight were written after these two.
They were clearly meant to copy the first letters!
Just what are you trying to say?
?
IRK
HE ASKS TOO MANY QUES-TIONS...
So what if this crime was not committed by a stalker...
...But by someone using the stalker's letters...
My Risa, This is the fifteenth letter I've sent you. Why won't you answer me? I've been waiting forever...
SAM
...For a premeditated murder?

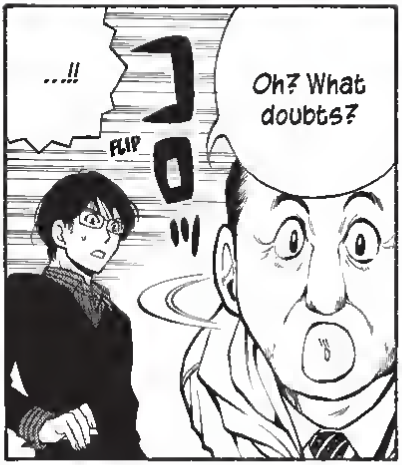
SHARP
I mean! Kumakawa-san!
What do you think, Detective Akaboshi?
Don't forget about that autograph.
TEE HEE
I... I suspect this detective is the type who's quick to "jump on the bandwagon," as they say.
HMMM...
...
THIS... BRAT!
I had that feeling, too.
FLIP
Now that you mention it...
PAT
Now that you mention it, I had that feeling, too.
Right, I see!
FLOP
PAT
But it seems to me that you can expect stalkers to think alike.
Ha ha ha. You have such a healthy imagination.
Th...this detective...
Doesn't he have a brain of his own?!
...

ZSH
O...okay!!
We have no choice. Keep going, Watson!!

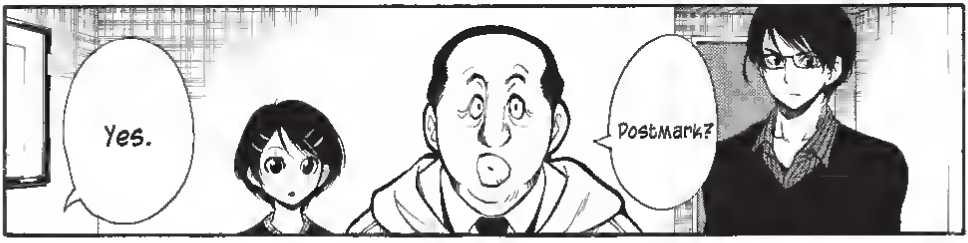
Just a second, please! I still have my doubts!!
?!

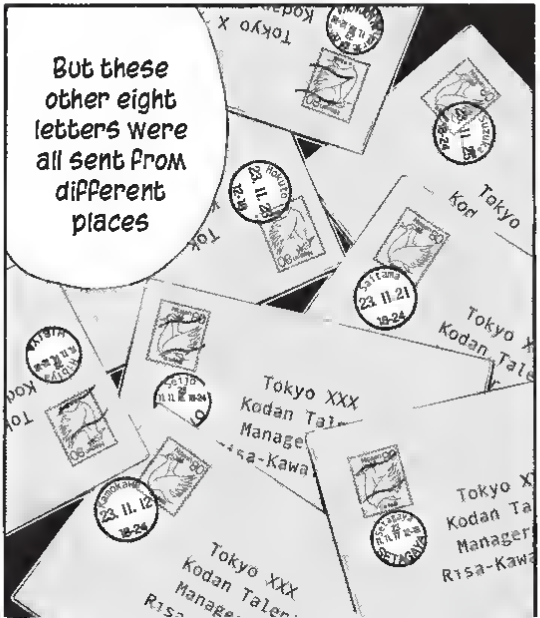

Tokyo XXX
Well...

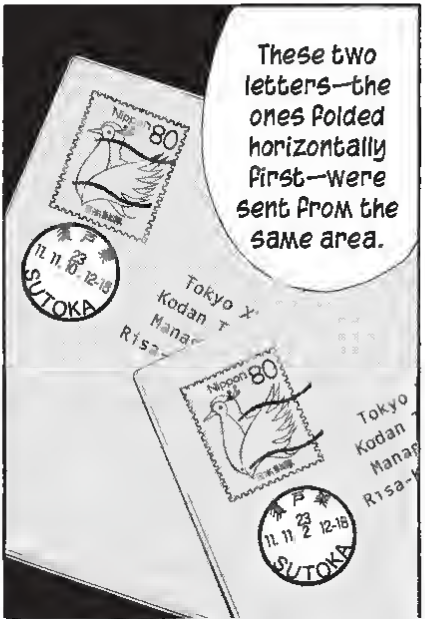

WHOSE SIDE IS HE ON?!
GRR! THIS DETEC-TIVE...
He's not getting an autograph from me

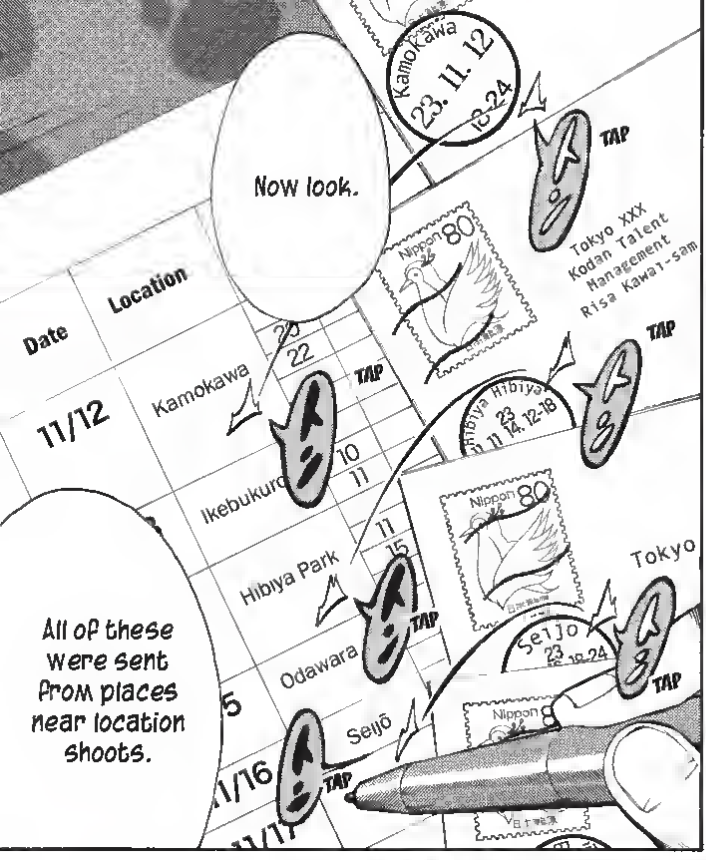

...!!
FLIP
Oh? What doubts?

This postmark.
Tokyo XXX
Kodan Talent
Management
Risa Kawai-sama


Yes.
Postmark?

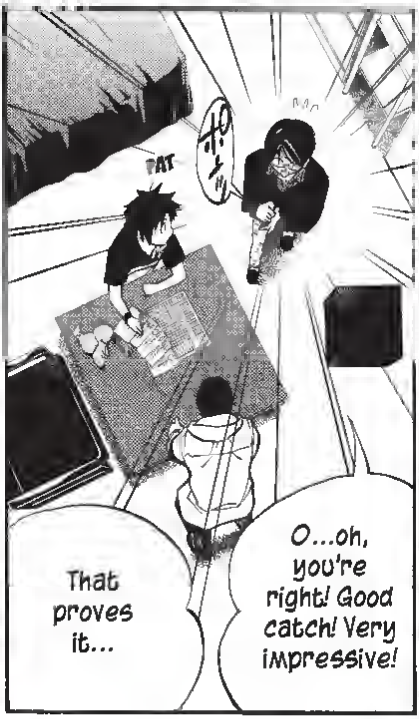

But these other eight letters were all sent from different places


These two letters—the ones folded horizontally first—were sent from the same area.


Now look.
Date
Location
11/12
Kamokawa
Ikebukuro
Hibiya Park
Odawara
Seijō
TAP
Kamokawa 23. 11. 12
Tokyo XXX Kodan Talent Management Risa Kawai-sam
Nippon 80
Hibiya Hibiya 23. 11. 14. 12-18
Seijo 23. 10. 24
Tokyo
All of these were sent from places near location shoots.

...
I got one of these schedules, too.
RUSTLE

The stalker who did this had been following her for a long time!!

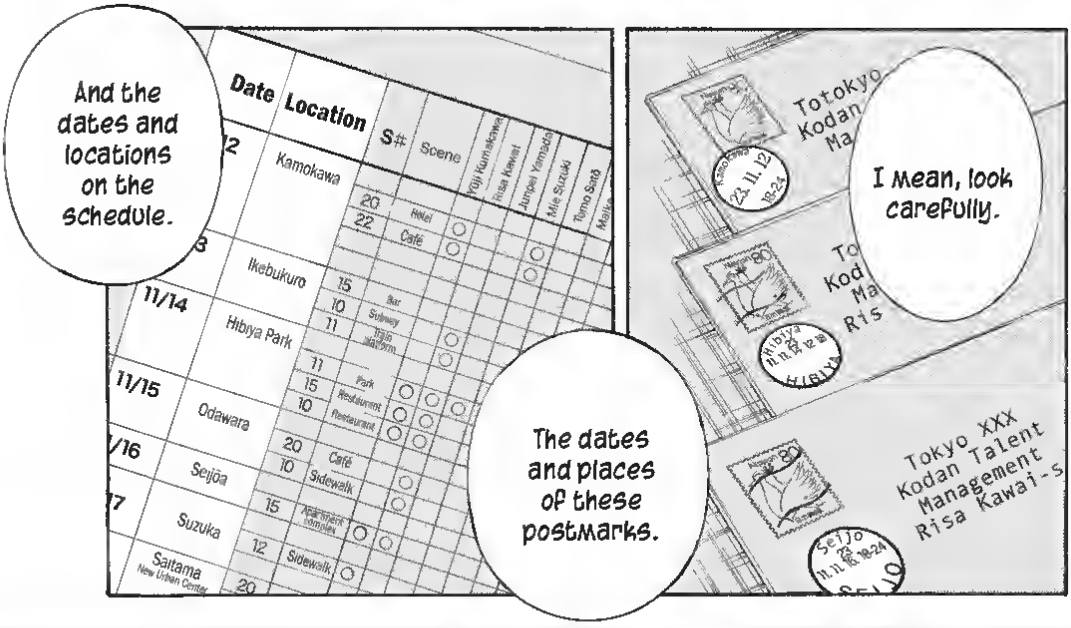

PAT
That proves it...
O...oh, you're right! Good catch! Very impressive!

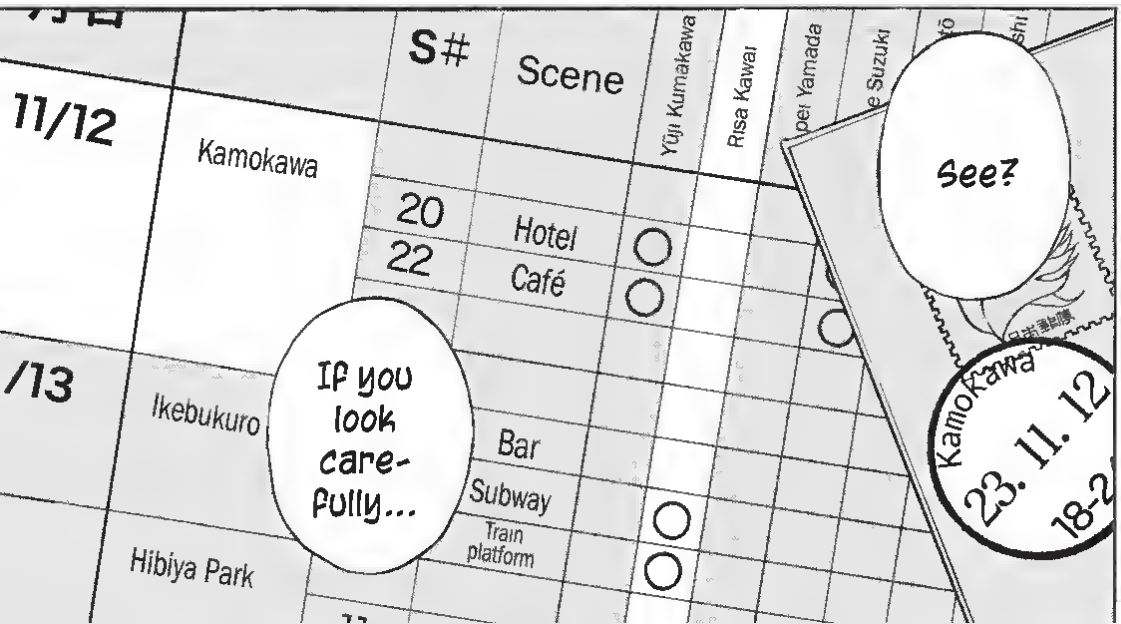
...!
Y-you're right!
...

He followed Risa-chan wherever she went.
So basically, the killer...
...Managed to find her schedule somewhere.
And he kept sending her these letters.
And that he had found where she was!
These postmarks prove...
...That this person is the killer.

WHAT CAN HE MEAN?!
TWITCH

Are you sure? I think it proves the opposite.
The opposite?


And the dates and locations on the schedule.
Date
Location
S#
Scene
Yūji Kumakawa
Risa Kawai
Junpei Yamada
Mie Suzuki
Tomo Sato
Kamokawa
Ikebukuro
Hibiya Park
Odawara
Seijōa
Suzuka
Saitama
Hotel
Café
Bar
Subway
Train platform
Park
Restaurant
Sidewalk
I mean, look carefully.
The dates and places of these postmarks.
Totokyo Kodan Ma
Tokyo XXX Kodan Talent Management Risa Kawai-s
Kamokawa
23. 11. 12
18-24
Hibiya
Seijo


11/12
Kamokawa
20
22
Hotel
Café
/13
Ikebukuro
Bar
Subway
Train platform
Hibiya Park
If you look carefully...
See?
Kamokawa
23. 11. 12
18-2

If he wanted to see Risa-chan,
Tomo Satō
Mie Suzuki
Junpei Yamada
Risa Kawai
Yūji Kumakawa
Hotel
Café
This was not the right location to find her.
What?
You're right!
You...
Risa-chan isn't in any of these scenes.
...
...
See? This one, too. And here.

So we look at all the locations that match the postmarks,
Then see which of the actors went to all of them...
The scene where Detective Akaboshi faces off against the real killer.
Nippon
Suzuka
'2. 11. 25
18-24
There were only two actors staying at that location.
The actress playing the killer, and Akaboshi himself.
Risa Kawai
Junpei Yam
Mie Suzu
Tomo
SQUEAK
Here, too.
SQUEAK
SQUEAK
And look here...
SQUEAK
...

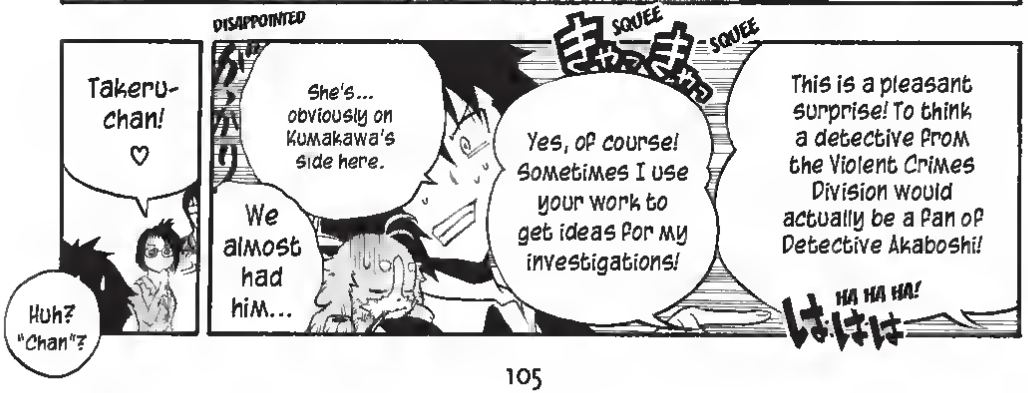
Yūji Kumakawa
Setagaya
11.11.17 23
12.18
SETAGAYA
Nippon 80
Setagaya New Urban Center
23. 11. 21
18-24
Suzuka
23. 12. 25
18-24
Kumakawa-san.
And we find only one.

W...Well, I am the main character!
...
Of course I was at almost every location...
B-DMP
...
...
Just one more push, and we've got him corne—
Yeah!
...Has started to suspect that Kumakawa might be stretching the stalker angle a bit too far.
Well done, Watson! Finally, the bandwagon-riding detective...
?!
ARF!

!!
Sorry I'm late!
I'm Wajima, from the Violent Crimes Division.
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK
How... how'd you get here so fast?!
CRAP, IT'S MY SISTER!
ARF
Oh! Irene!♡
...?!
I-I wasn't... Anyway, let me tell you everything we've found out...
Takeru! You better not be tampering with the crime scene!
Traffic was better than I expected.
GRIND
GRIND
ZOOM
ZOOM
?
No! I don't want to hear from civilians!!
...
SMILE

N-no way! Yūji Kumakawa... san?
SQUEEZE
ぎゅっ
Yes, I'm Kumakawa! I'm pleased to make your acquaintance... Wajima-san.

O-oh no! I can never wash this hand!
I.. I'm a big fan..
I said it--
BLUSH
BLUSH
K...KIND OF.
WATSON... HAS IRENE ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THAT?


DISAPPOINTED
SQUEE
SQUEE
Takeru-chan! ♡
Huh? "Chan"?
She's... obviously on Kumakawa's side here.
We almost had him...
Yes, of course! Sometimes I use your work to get ideas for my investigations!
This is a pleasant surprise! To think a detective from the Violent Crimes Division would actually be a fan of Detective Akaboshi!
HA HA HA!

ばたん
SHUT

UM... Takeru...?
GRR! YOU JUST WANNA GET CLOSE TO KUMAKAWA!!
SHOCK
ガビーン
We don't need three of the same testimony!
We only need one witness around here!!
SHOO! SHOO!

If we don't some-thing...
Takeru. Is there anything I can do to help?

The more I thought... it might be him.
To be honest... the more I listened to you,
!

...Do you think... Kumakawa-san did it?
Huh? What is it, Miki?

What...do you think, Miki?
...

...Not that I think anyone would go after you.
H...hey! What's that supposed to mean?
G'night!
GRIN
...It'll be okay.
Just...Make sure to lock your door before you go to sleep.
A battle with a criminal always depends on chance.
I don't know.
Do you think we can beat him, Sherdog?
So, I know I said it'd be okay, but...
However...
ピタ
STOP
What?!

A hundred years ago,
Luck was always on my side!

We've only just begun to fight!
We will prove beyond the shadow of a doubt...
...that the killer is Yūji Kumakawa!!
Yeah!!

Sherdog...!!

We took your advice, Kumakawa-san.
And we're going to follow the stalker lead.
We'll have to start by asking around to see if we can find a witness.
...
捜

Case 2 ⚜ A Script for Death, Part 5
SHERLOCK BONES

Uh...um... Komakawa-san, can I ask you a favor?
I...I will!
Of course!
Yes, anything.
B-DMP
SQUEEZE
I hope you arrest the monster that did this to Risa-chan!
All right, Detective Wajima.
U-ugh. Irene's completely taken with him.
Yeah. She may be super straight-laced, but she's a total fangirl
M-me?! I'm flattered...
Of course! Let me tell you how surprised I am to meet such a beautiful detective.
I'd love to make you my co-star.
Um...can I...take my picture with you?
I'm a long-time fan.
...
What is she doing?
...
Say cheese!
CLICK
Huh?
AHEM.
Yes, ma'am!
Now, Detective Onda. Use my phone... please.

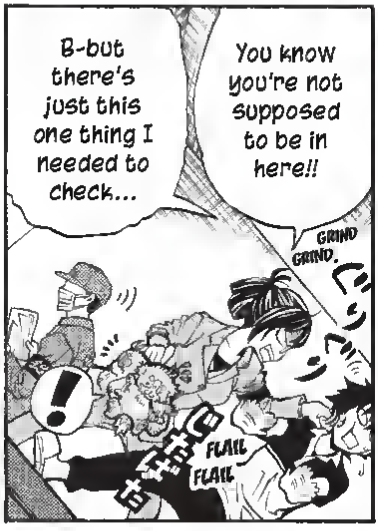
Not enough memory. Delete photo?
What? Here...
Your phone's memory is full.
Let me switch it to save on the memory card.
...
!
CLICK
CLICK
RUMMAGE
RUMMAGE
OH WELL I'LL JUST USE THIS...
And... there.
OH! OH NO...
Memory card...
That reminds me...
If that's true...
...!
You see, Watson...
What's up, Sherdog?
WHISPER

Quite so!
But if we can...
I'd like some-thing more definitive!
...then it might still be possible...
...to establish a motive!
I wouldn't want any-thing to happen to you on the way. I'll escort you.
Th-thank you!
Score! ...I mean...
I'm going to go down to the set and run through tomorrow's scenes.
Here's my email address. If anything happens...
Well, I don't think I'll be getting any sleep tonight.
I was...!!
GASP
Before it hap-pened, I..
...
Remember the scene of the crime!
Ugh, sis. Don't you realize he's the killer...?

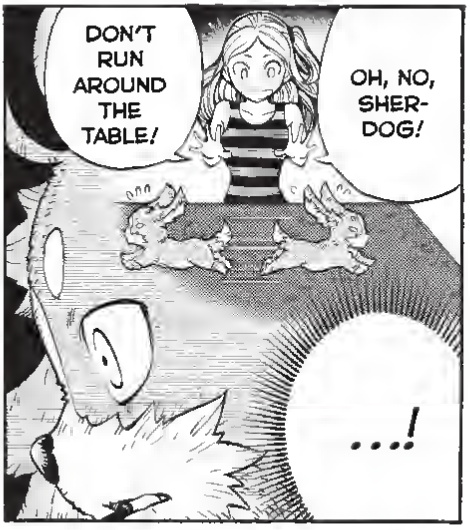
That's it!! Perhaps it's still...
Hey! Sherdog?!
Come with Me, Watson!!
BAM
Yes... I was in the bathroom...
GLANCE
GLANCE
Grr! I have to get out of here!
!
A wet towel...I can use that...
CATCH!
Good! I got the handle!
KACHAK
TUG
Just turn it slowly, and...
Then...

I'M sorry!!
DASH
Ah! Hey!!
I saw it...
...on the table.
Hikaru Akaboshi:
The Chivalrous Detective
TWITCH
!
Sherdog! What's gotten into you?!
POING
TEP
TEP
TEP

This was here when...!!
This!


B-but there's just this one thing I needed to check...
You know you're not supposed to be in here!!
GRIND GRIND
FLAIL FLAIL

YOINK
Takeru!


DON'T RUN AROUND THE TABLE!
OH, NO, SHER-DOG!
...!

Airin-nēchan!
Risa-chan's script!!
Did it have a hand print on it?!
BAM

ワン!!
ARF!!
ARF!!
!

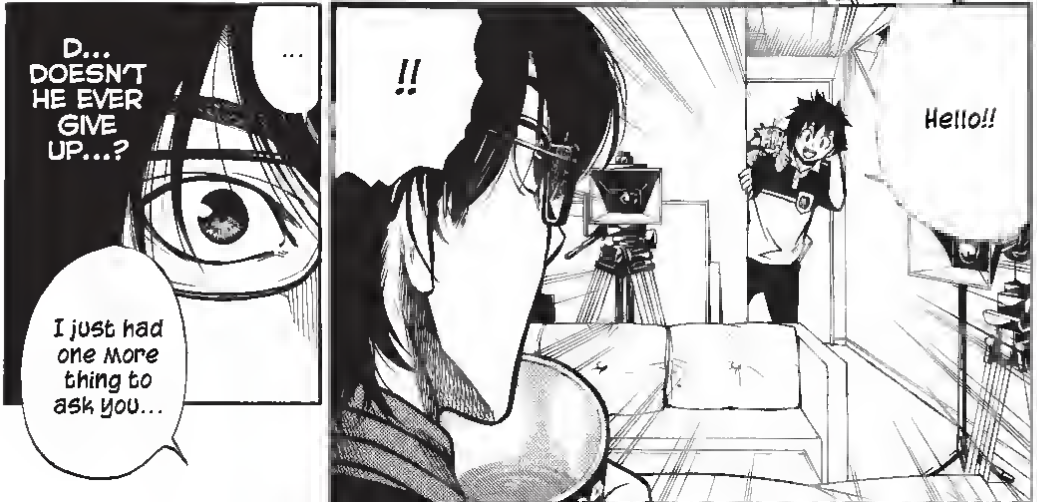
A cocoa-covered hand print.
And, sure enough, right there.

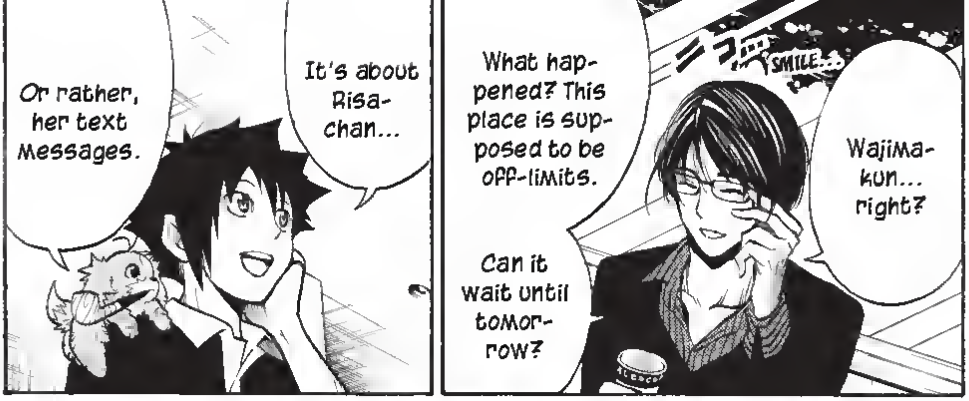
She was attacked while she was reading over her last scene.
...Yes. She was supposed to be filming tomorrow morning.
FLIP FLIP
The script was open to that scene...

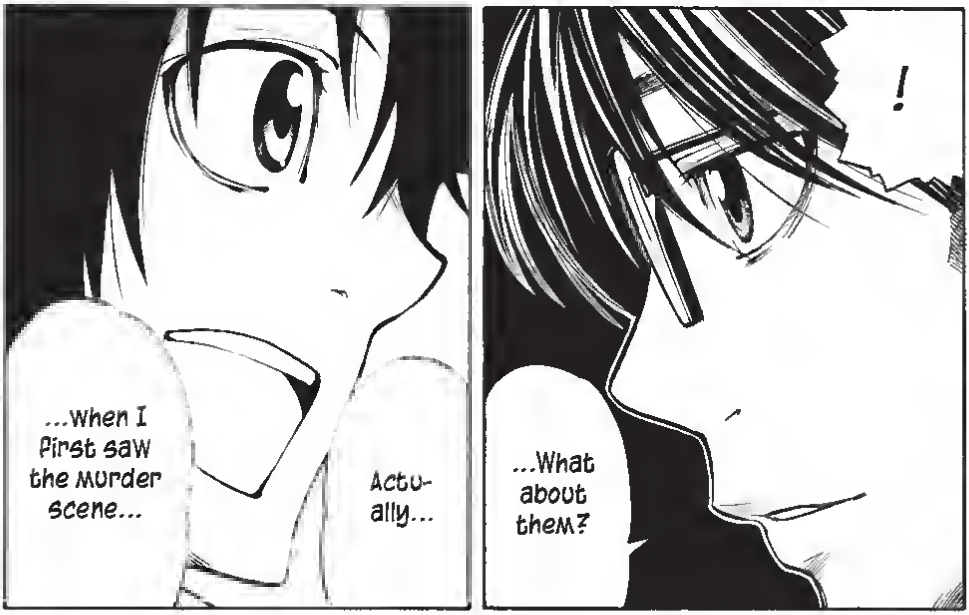
IT'S JUST LIKE SHERDOG SAID.
THAT HAND PRINT!
ARF!!
ARF

IT'S NOT ALL THERE...
IT GETS CUT OFF!!
21
Hotel Room (night)

HEH HEH...
EVERYTHING IS GOING SWIMMINGLY, THANKS TO THAT FANGIRL DETECTIVE, WAJIMA.
KACHAK
ガチャッ
ALTHOUGH HER BROTHER WAS GETTING A LITTLE TOO NOSY FOR HIS OWN GOOD.

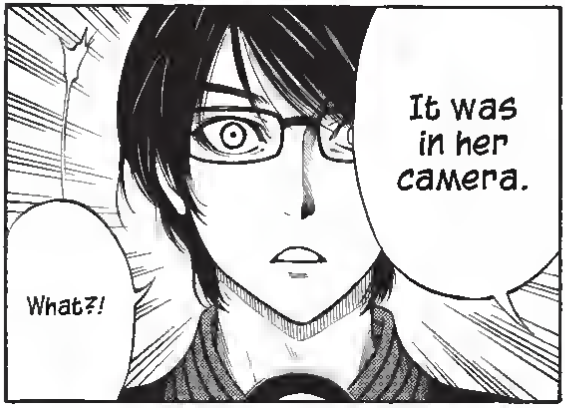

D... DOESN'T HE EVER GIVE UP...?
...
I just had one more thing to ask you...
!!
Hello!!


Or rather, her text messages.
It's about Risa-chan...
What happened? This place is supposed to be off-limits.
Can it wait until tomorrow?
SMILE...
Wajima-kun... right?


...When I first saw the murder scene...
Actually...
!
...What about them?

To hide his motive.
No, I think the killer erased all the evidence.
And? Did you find anything?
I thought maybe if I looked at her phone, I could find out the killer's motive.
...I sneaked a peek at Risa-chan's text messages.
Well...
Maybe there was nothing there to begin with.
HMM...but how do you know it was deleted?
RUMMAGE RUMMAGE
Wow. You're a detective's little brother, all right.

...If we check out this Micro SD memory card.
Maybe we can figure that out...

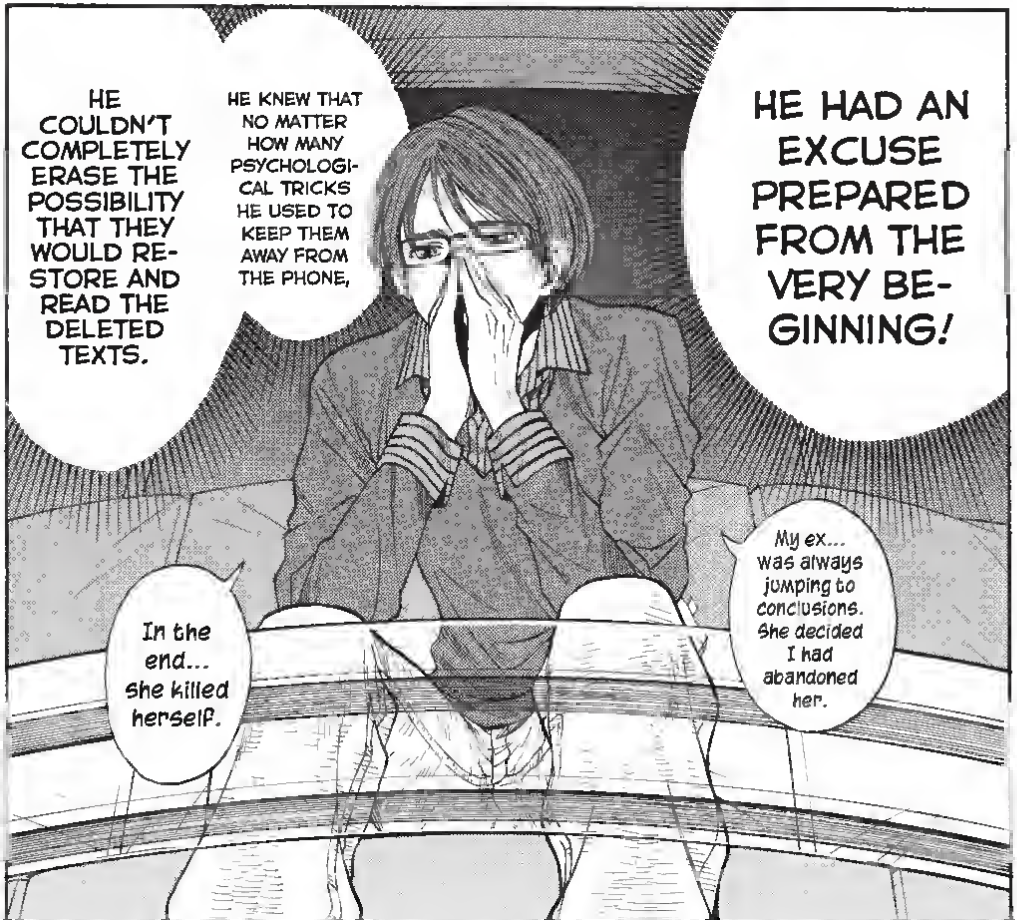

What?!
It was in her camera.

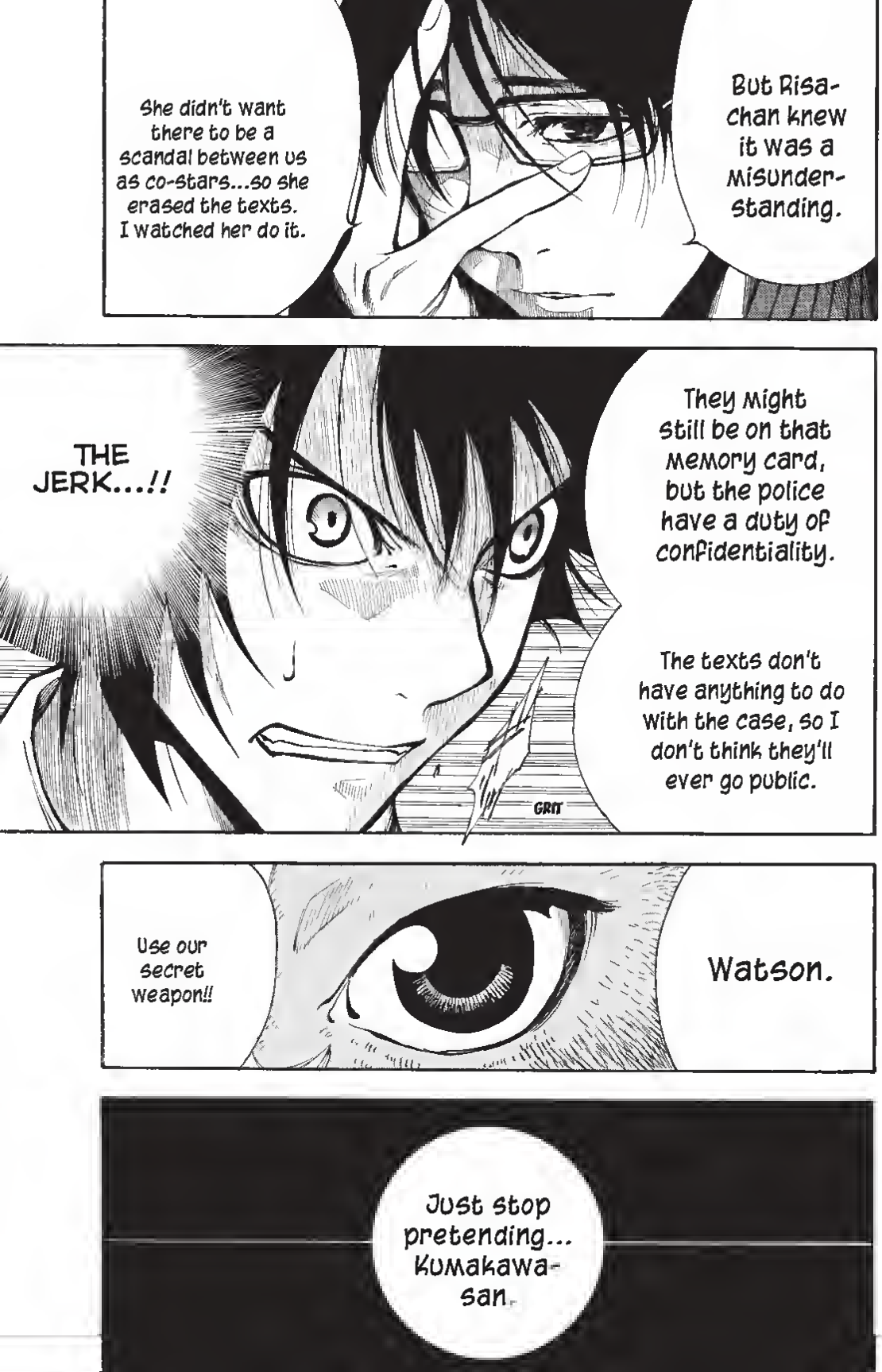
...I mean, that's what I heard from the police.
...Huh? She didn't have one of those in her phone.
It's not from her phone.

The memory on her phone would fill up in no time!
It doesn't make any sense that her phone would not have a memory card...y'know?
RISA-RISA BLOG.
I mean, Risa-chan is a celebrity, and she uploads tons of pictures to her blog.
I thought there was something weird about it.

So she took the memory card out of her phone,
Put it in an adapter, and used it for the camera.
Adapter
I bet Risa-chan was trying to take pictures with her camera,
And then she realized she forgot to put a card in it.
I used my phone to see what was on the card, and it looks like she has back-ups of her texts!
Text history recorded on both the phone and the card.
If we give this to the police to investi-gate,
It shouldn't take them long to figure out which texts on the memory card were deleted from the phone!
Certain texts were erased from the phone.
All texts remain on the card.
WHY YOU LITTLE...!!
GRIT...
And of course, those texts would have something pointing to a motive.
I'm sure the police will agree.

PSST
SHERDOG. DO YOU THINK HE'S GOING TO CONFESS?
No... He has something else in mind...
GRR...
Risa-chan told me all about it.
She was best friends with my ex-girlfriend. ...They... texted about me a lot.
I'll tell you the truth.
Huh?!
CREAK
So...have you given it to the police yet?
Not yet... But...
Okay.


HE HAD AN EXCUSE PREPARED FROM THE VERY BEGINNING!
HE KNEW THAT NO MATTER HOW MANY PSYCHOLOGICAL TRICKS HE USED TO KEEP THEM AWAY FROM THE PHONE,
HE COULDN'T COMPLETELY ERASE THE POSSIBILITY THAT THEY WOULD RESTORE AND READ THE DELETED TEXTS.
My ex... was always jumping to conclusions. She decided I had abandoned her.
In the end... she killed herself.


She didn't want there to be a scandal between us as co-stars...so she erased the texts. I watched her do it.
But Risa-chan knew it was a misunder-standing.
THE JERK...!!
GRIT
They might still be on that memory card, but the police have a duty of confidentiality.
The texts don't have anything to do with the case, so I don't think they'll ever go public.
Use our secret weapon!!
Watson.
Just stop pretending... Kumakawa-san.

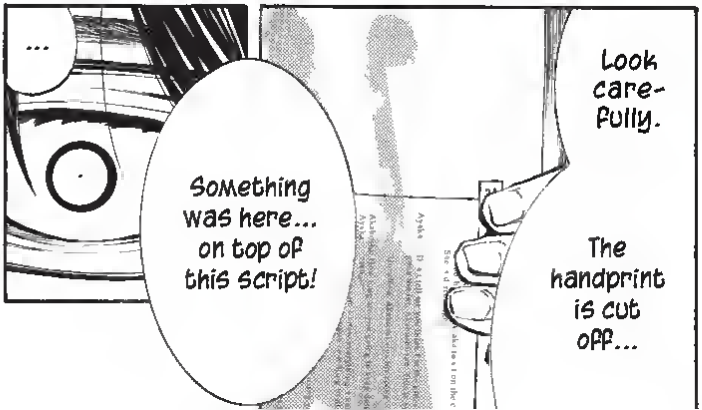
You didn't want Risa-chan to expose your scandal—she knew you drove Ami Takahara to suicide.
And she was going to tell the world. So you killed her!!

...No!
BAM
It's not what you think! I wouldn't kill a woman over that!
Don't tell me you'd actually accuse me of murder just because I fold paper the same way as a stalker.

...I knew you suspected me.
SIGH...

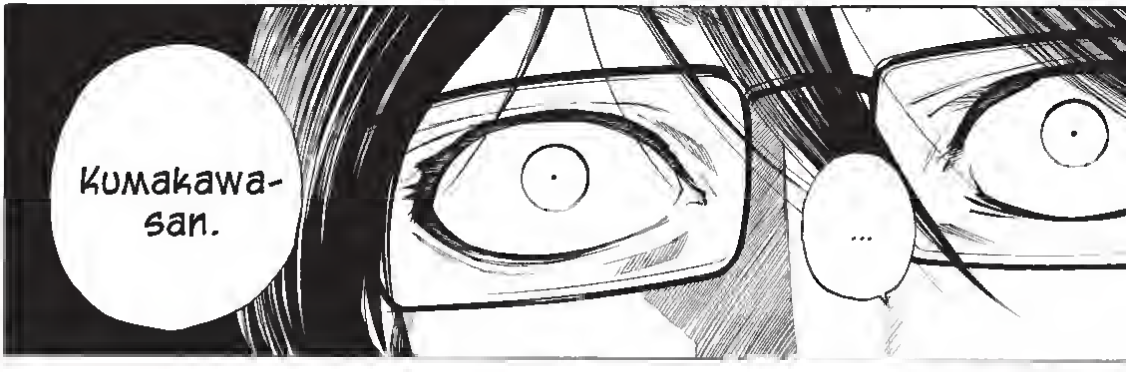
This hand-print on Risa-chan's script!!
I have more solid proof.
55

When the killer attacked, she put her hand down here.
...
Right in the middle of these two pages.


...
Something was here... on top of this script!
Look carefully.
The handprint is cut off...

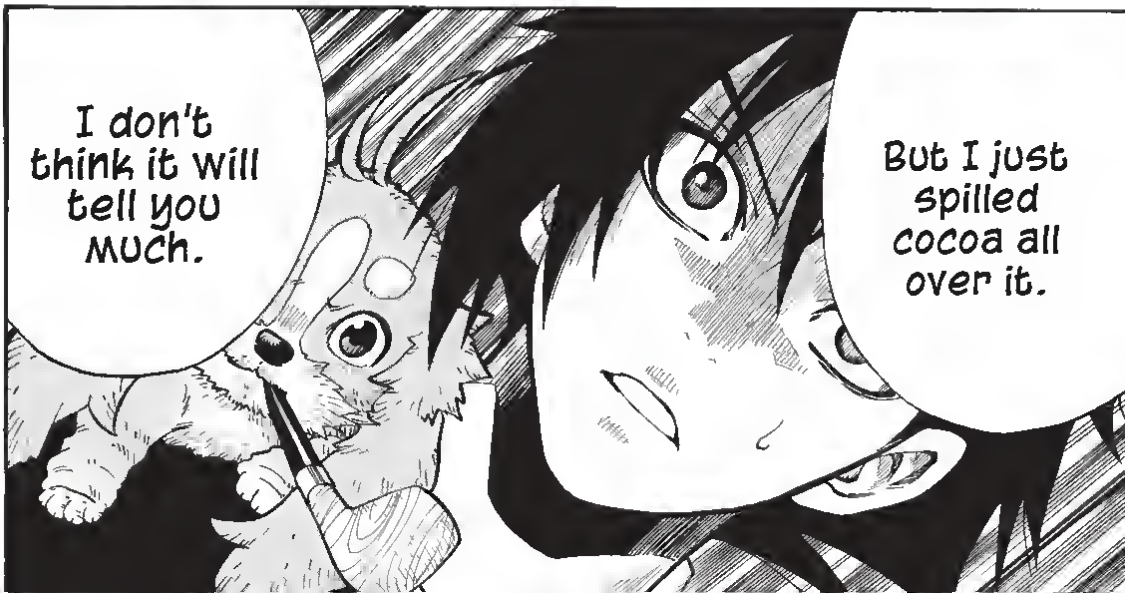
So?

When Risa-chan's hand slammed down on top of it...
...It left a print on her script
And on whatever was on top of it.
Just like if you put a stamp over two pieces of paper.
WAJIMA TAKERU
輪島尊


Kumakawa-san.
...

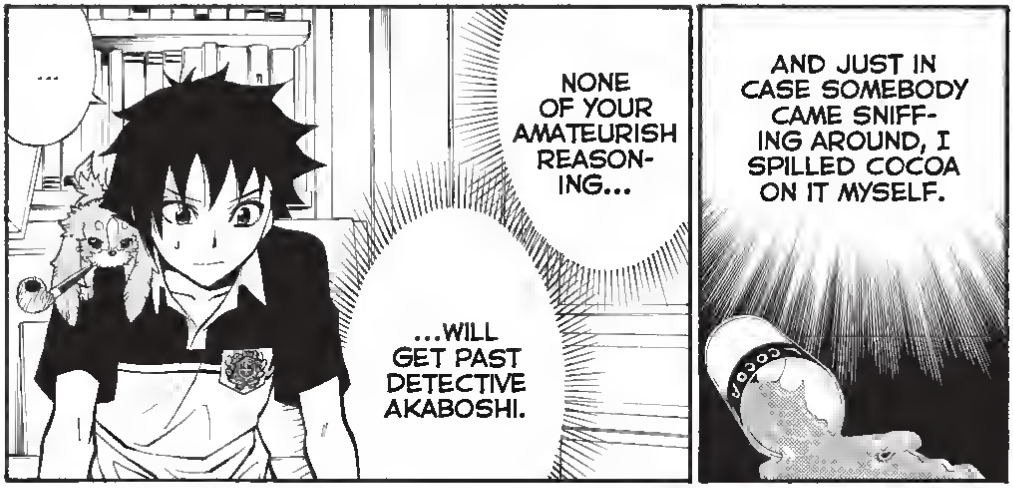
...Your script?
Will you let me see...
WHOOSH
...
...Yes.
...You can see it.
CREAK
...

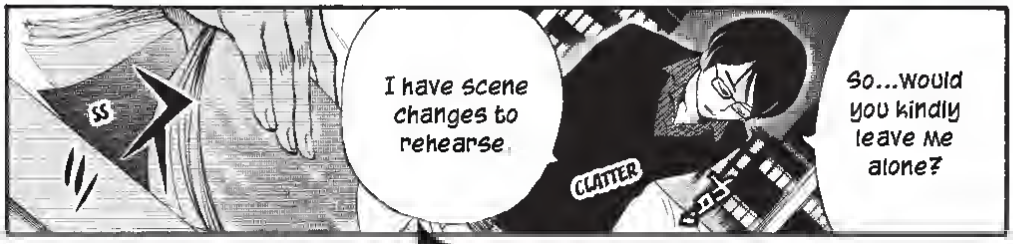
Hikaru
Akaboshi:


I don't think it will tell you much.
But I just spilled cocoa all over it.

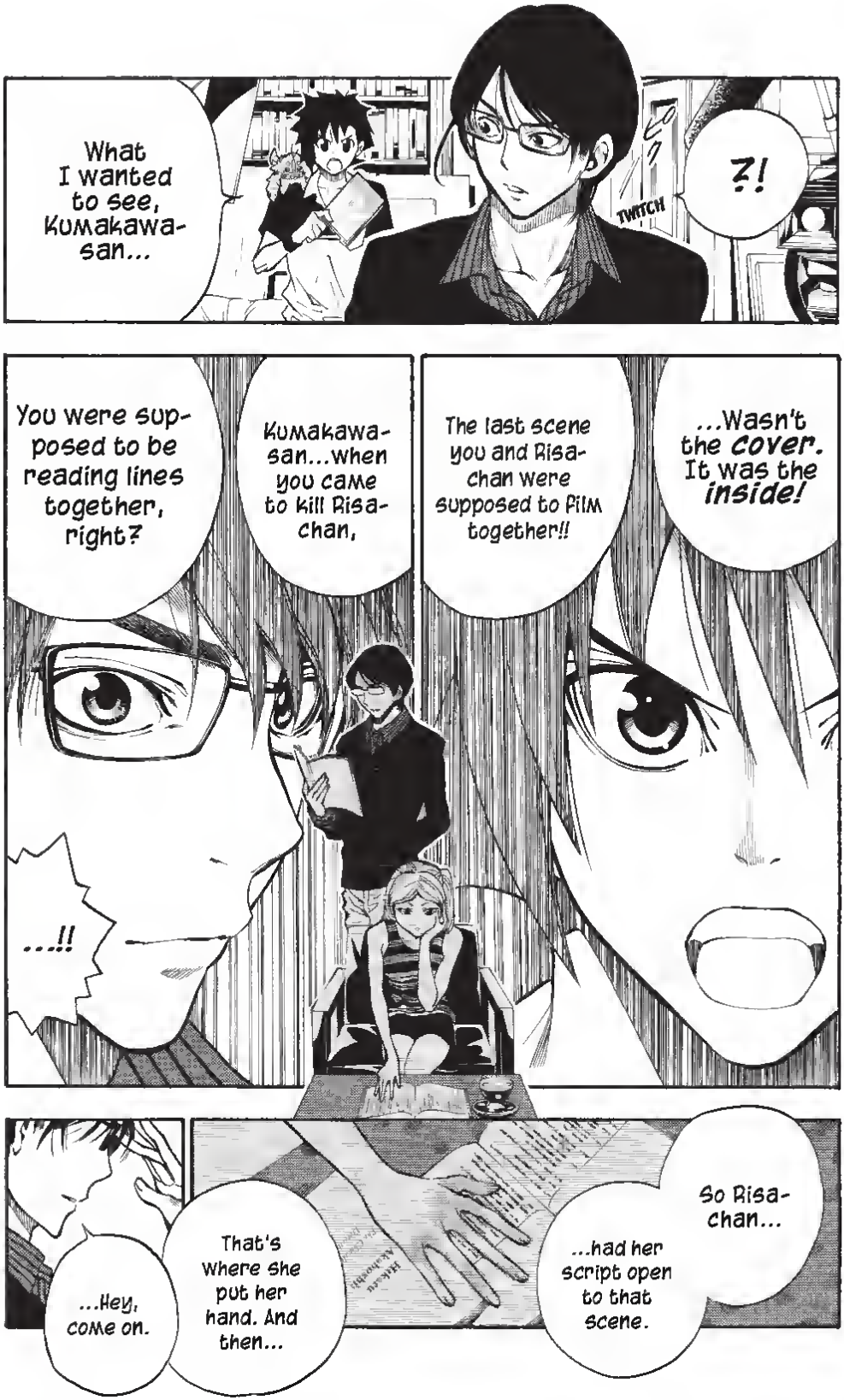
I just spilled cocoa all over my script.
Hikaru Akaboshi: The Chivalrous Detective
As you can see,
...it would be gone now.
Even if there were a print on it...
RUSTLE

Case 2 ⚜ A Script for Death, Part 6


...
NONE OF YOUR AMATEURISH REASONING...
...WILL GET PAST DETECTIVE AKABOSHI.
AND JUST IN CASE SOMEBODY CAME SNIFFING AROUND, I SPILLED COCOA ON IT MYSELF.

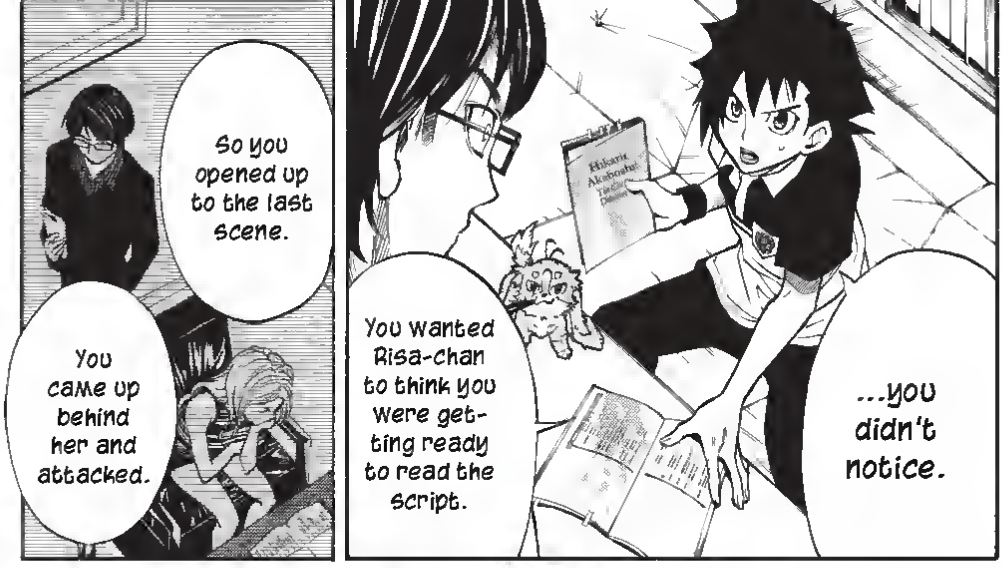

SS
I have scene changes to rehearse.
CLATTER
So...would you kindly leave me alone?

GRIN
Arf!!
Found it!
Hikaru Akaboshi:
Chivalrous

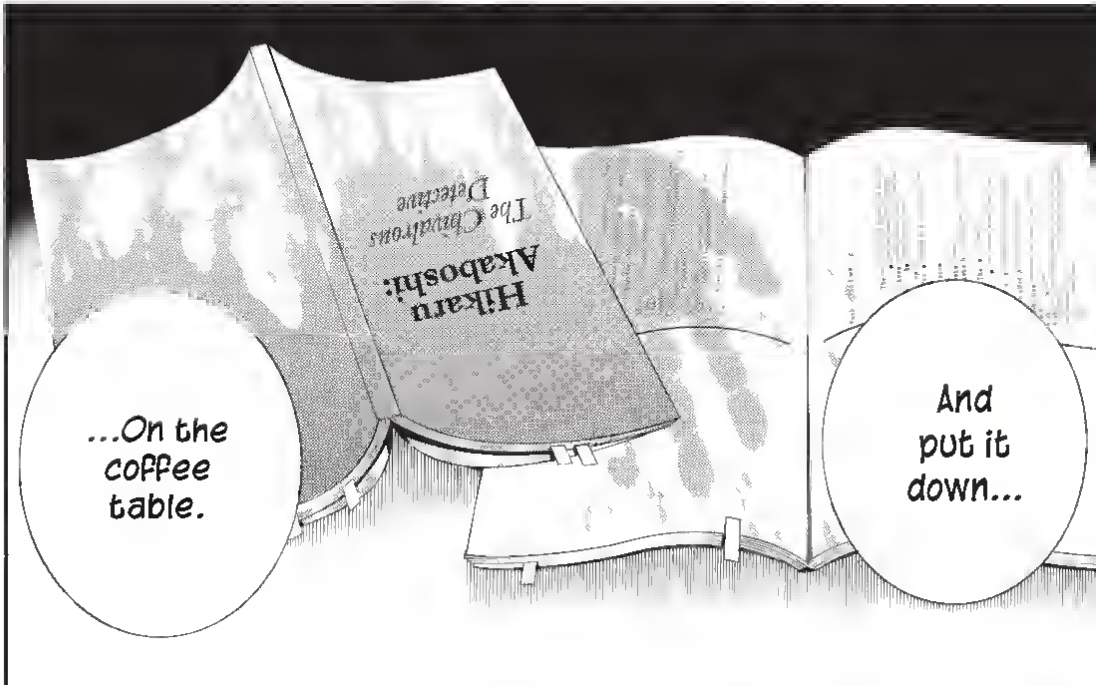

What I wanted to see, Kumakawa-san...
TWITCH
?!
You were supposed to be reading lines together, right?
Kumakawa-san...When you came to kill Risa-chan,
The last scene you and Risa-chan were supposed to film together!!
...Wasn't the cover. It was the inside!
...!!
...Hey, come on.
That's where she put her hand. And then...
...had her script open to that scene.
So Risa-chan...

How many times do I have to tell you? I didn't kill her.
That's enough...
IRK...
SHE WAS READING IT ALONE!!
IF SHE WAS READING HER SCRIPT,
WINCE
Now...
You've hit a nerve.
...Hold your ground, Watson.
B-DMP
B-DMP
B-DMP
B-DMP
It's time to hit him with the truth!!
B-DMP
B-DMP
GRIT

Him!
...An accident?
Y...yes!
SKFF
SKFF
Kumakawa-san! The fact is, before you started running lines...
...There was a little accident!!
BAM
What about it?
...The dog?
And he knocked it over!
Risa-chan was drinking some hot cocoa.
But...
...He ran all over the table.
TWITCH
Then, with his paws covered in the stuff...

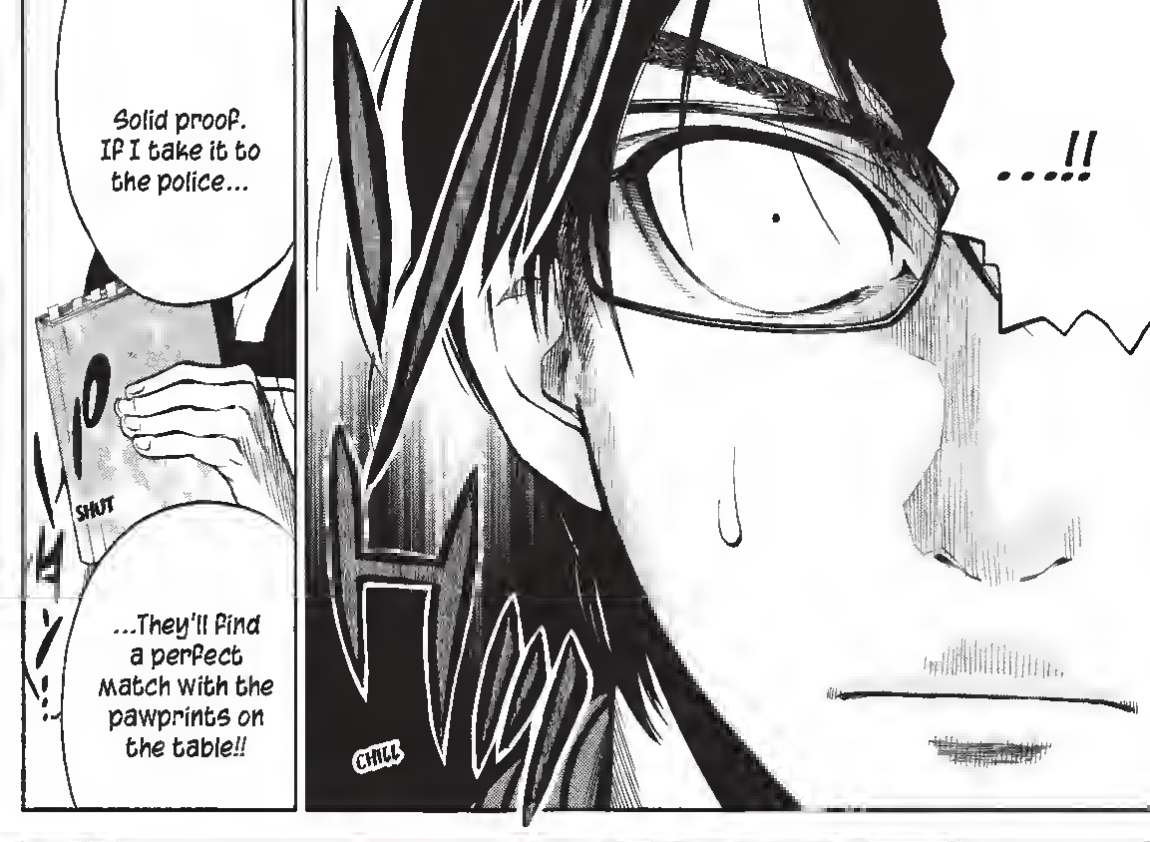

So you opened up to the last scene.
You came up behind her and attacked.
You wanted Risa-chan to think you were getting ready to read the script.
...you didn't notice.

As you did, you took your open script...
FWOOSH!


Hikaru Akaboshi: The Chivalrous Detective
...On the coffee table.
And put it down...

IT'S IMPOS-
SIBLE...
NO...
Then,
B-DMP
B-DMP...
...Risa-chan put her hand down over both your scripts.
As she struggled for breath...
When she did...
THMP...
...Sherdog's footprints...
...were still wet.
THMP...

And as you can see,
They were left all over your script.
51
Hotel Room (night)
A kaboshi invites Ayaka to sit on the couch. She is discouraged.
Ayaka "Don't tell me you think I am the killer."
You've really gone too far, Akaboshi san. This is outrageous."
Unruffled, Akaboshi slips his cocoa
Akaboshi "...How long are you going to keep defending a criminal?"
Ayaka "What?"
Akaboshi "Ayaka san, I know everything. I know who really did it,
and I know that you're willing to disgrace yourself to protect her."
Ayaka "..."
Akaboshi "Why? You know she's only using you."
Ayaka "You don't know anything."
Ayaka takes her cocoa and attempts to throw it at him
Akaboshi "So I was right."
Ayaka "..."
Akaboshi "There on your left hand
about
young


Solid proof. If I take it to the police...
SHUT
...They'll find a perfect match with the pawprints on the table!!
...!!
CHILL

You can't talk your way out of this!
No more excuses!

Watson!! Watch out!!
!
So go turn yourself in...
LUNGE
WHAM
?!
GH
GH
GH
GH
GH
HE SAW YOU WALKING AROUND WITH RISA'S SCRIPT.
HE TRIED TO TAKE IT. THERE WAS A STRUGGLE...
IN A FIT OF RAGE, HE STRANGLED THE INNOCENT PRODUCTION ASSISTANT...
S... STOP...
NGH...
I'M CHANGING THE SCRIPT.
THE STALKER RETURNED TO THE SCENE OF THE CRIME, WHERE HE RAN INTO YOU.

COUGH
ゴホッ
...Whew.
I told you.
See, Airin-nēchan?

No... You...
N...

To catch me in the act?
That was your plan all along?
...
レ…
GRIN...

Get away from him.
Yūji Kumakawa!!
...!!

CLINK
You're under arrest!!
Grr...!
...and as a suspect in the murder of Risa Kawai.
Yūji Kumakawa. I'm taking you in for attempted murder...

...
Let's go!!

WHEW
ほ

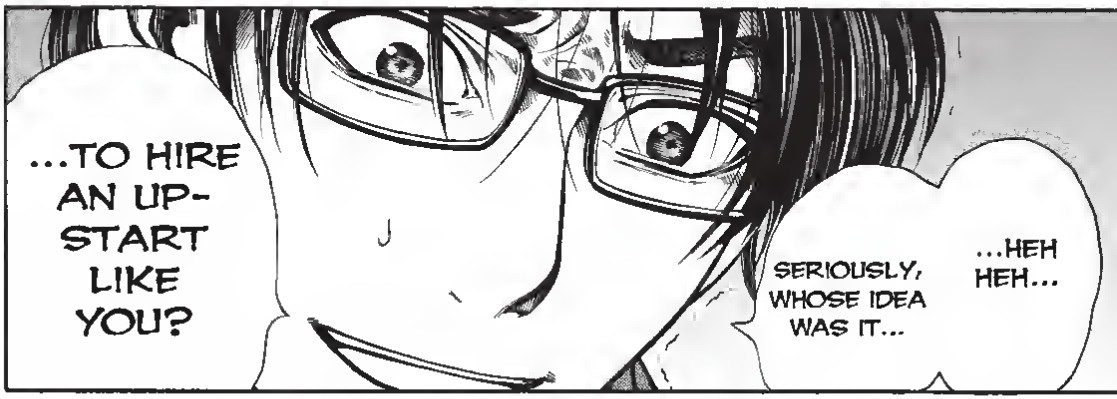
How long...
...have you suspected me?

...
Takeru... kun, was it?
Will you... tell me one thing...?

...I knew it was you all along.
The dog... Heh heh...
...
If only I had noticed those paw-prints...
He saw you kill her!
Because *he* saw it.
SNIFF
All...all along...?
But why...?

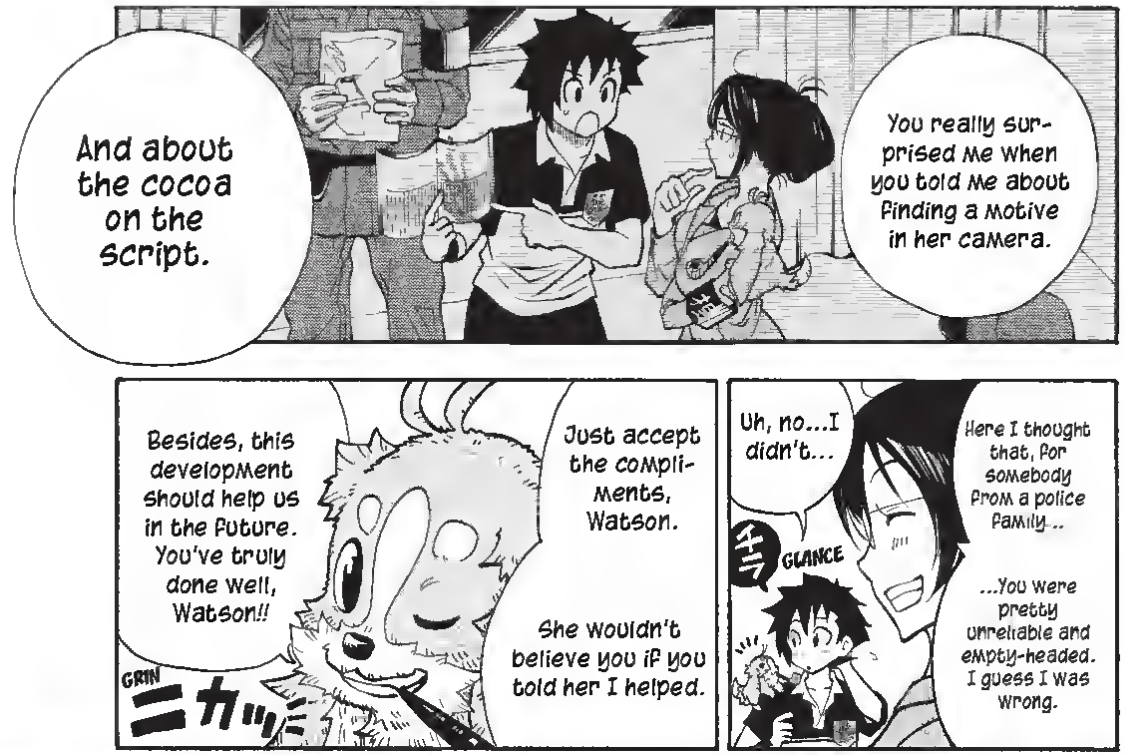
But now it's canceled, right?
You were supposed to film that scene tomorrow.
Because you killed Risa-chan.
Oh! About that, Kumakawa-san!
...the scene you theoretically were reading over last night.
So you never needed to look at...
You wouldn't have wanted to look at a scene that you were supposed to act out with a woman you'd killed.
That's why you never opened the script to that page after the murder, and that's how we got you.
In other words...

...some-
where
inside you.
Maybe we
were able to
catch you...
...because
there's
still some
humanity..


...TO HIRE
AN UP-
START
LIKE
YOU?
SERIOUSLY,
WHOSE IDEA
WAS IT...
...HEH
HEH...

OW!!
I under-
estimated
you!
Takeru!
SLAM

...
Take
him
in.
Yes, In-
spector!!

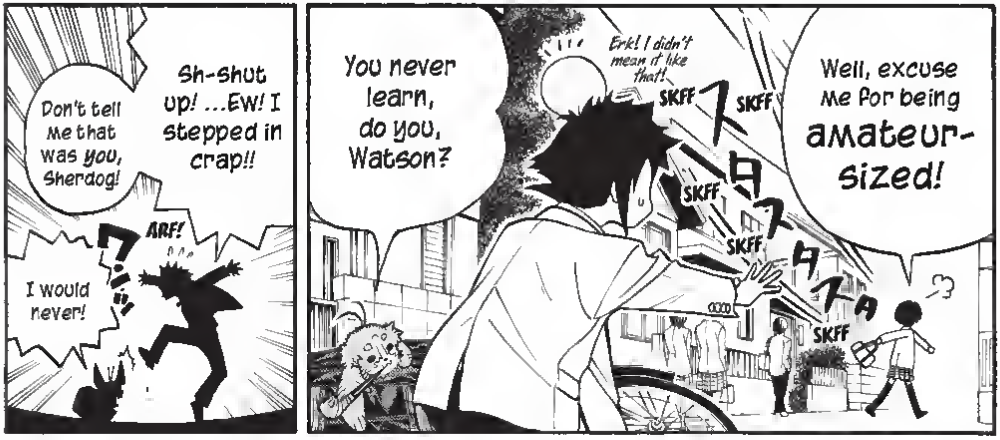

And about the cocoa on the script.
You really surprised me when you told me about finding a motive in her camera.
Besides, this development should help us in the future. You've truly done well, Watson!!
GRIN
ニカッ
Just accept the compliments, Watson.
She wouldn't believe you if you told her I helped.
Uh, no...I didn't...
GLANCE
Here I thought that, for somebody from a police family...
...You were pretty unreliable and empty-headed. I guess I was wrong.

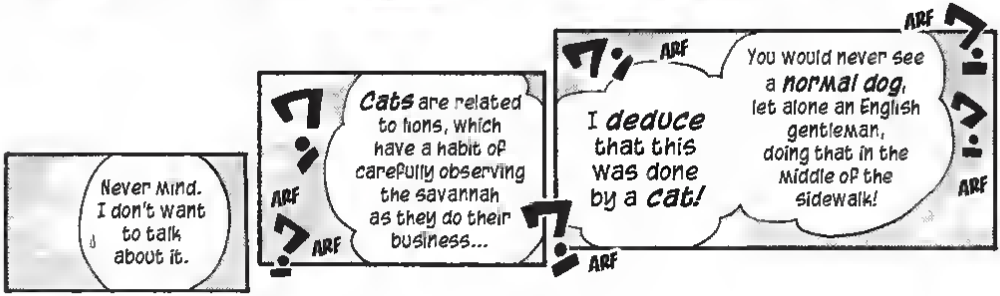
You're not the only one with a famous police detective for a grandfather!!
Heh heh. Yeah, well!
ARF!

Ami Takahara didn't kill herself?
What?!
But my sister says Kumakawa killed her.
...That's right, Miki. It's not in the news yet.
Then he panicked and sent out a ton of text messages to make it look like a suicide.
She wanted to break up, but it didn't go so well. He snapped and pushed her down the emergency staircase.
So she kept going after Kumakawa to get him to tell her what really happened.
Risa-chan thought something wasn't right about it.

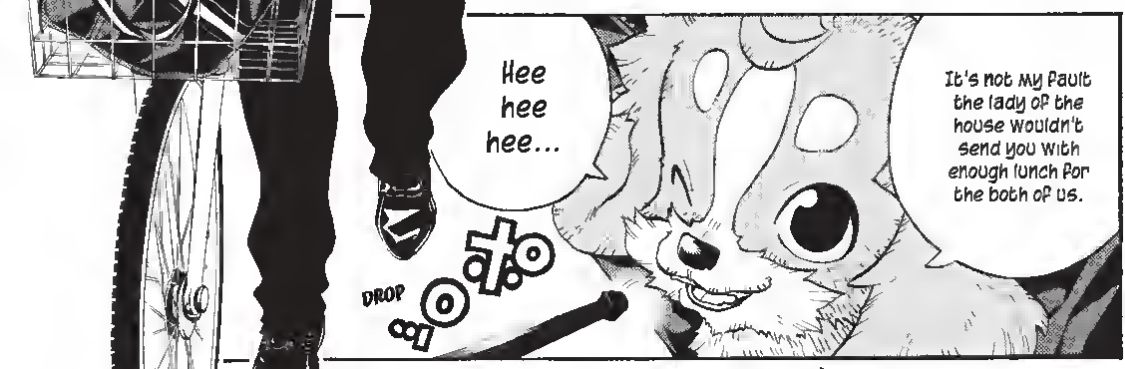
So if this hadn't happened, no one ever would have ever suspected anything different.
But there really are a lot of suicides and stuff in show business...
Wow... that's awful.
...
I mean, if it was really suicide, he wouldn't have needed to kill Risa-chan to hide it.
Looks like it.
Is... is that true?
Huh?
RUSTLE...
Don't go into show business.
Don't do it, Miki.
...
Takeru...
PERK
Oho?
...
I...I won't.

You're worried about me.
You just don't have what it takes to be a pro!
I mean, that gravitas I saw in those giant racks at the shoot.
You're nowhere near...
BLUSH
~~~~!!


Well, excuse me for being amateur-sized!
Erk! I didn't mean it like that!
SKFF
You never learn, do you, Watson?
Sh-shut up! ...EW! I stepped in crap!!
Don't tell me that was you, Sherdog!
ARF!
I would never!


You would never see a normal dog, let alone an English gentleman, doing that in the middle of the sidewalk!
I deduce that this was done by a cat!
Cats are related to lions, which have a habit of carefully observing the savannah as they do their business...
Never mind. I don't want to talk about it.
ARF
~~~~

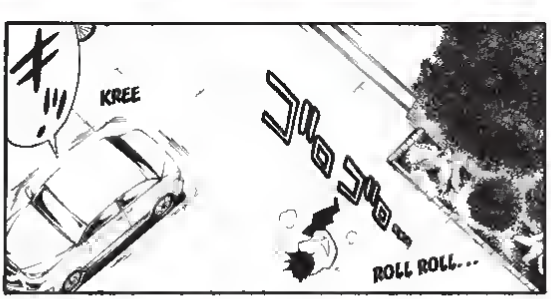
Oh, stop complaining, Watson.
Man, I can't believe I had to leave campus to get myself some lunch.
Everybody *else* brought their lunch so they'd be here for the physical exams this afternoon.
London Academy High School
SHERLOCK BONES
RATTLE RATTLE
カラカラ
Coffee Time 1:
Doctor Chikamatsu's Collection (Beginning)

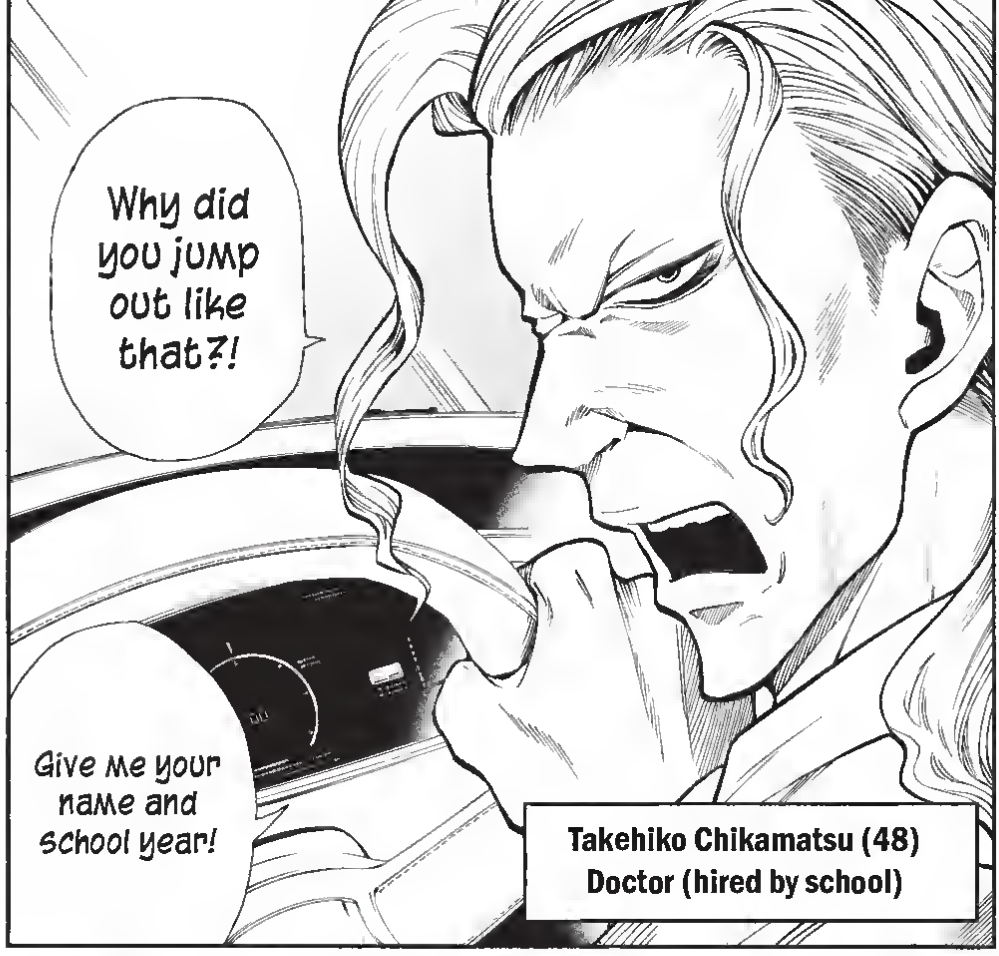

Hee hee hee...
It's not my fault the lady of the house wouldn't send you with enough lunch for the both of us.
DROP

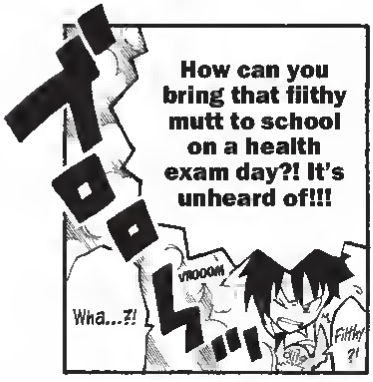
Ha ha!
What are you doing, Sherdog?
POING
ARF!
No!
I can't talk to Watson without my pipe!
Ah! Your pipe...
CLANG
ROLL
ROLL

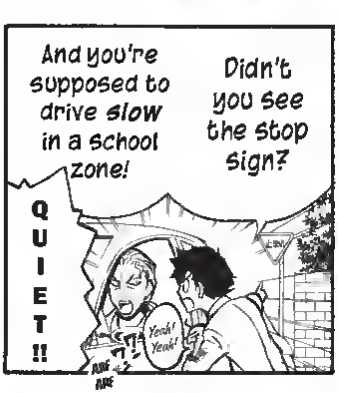
?!
SCREEE
Sherdog! Watch out!!
WHOOSH

HUFF
HUFF
You!!
Y...you okay, Sherdog?
HUFF

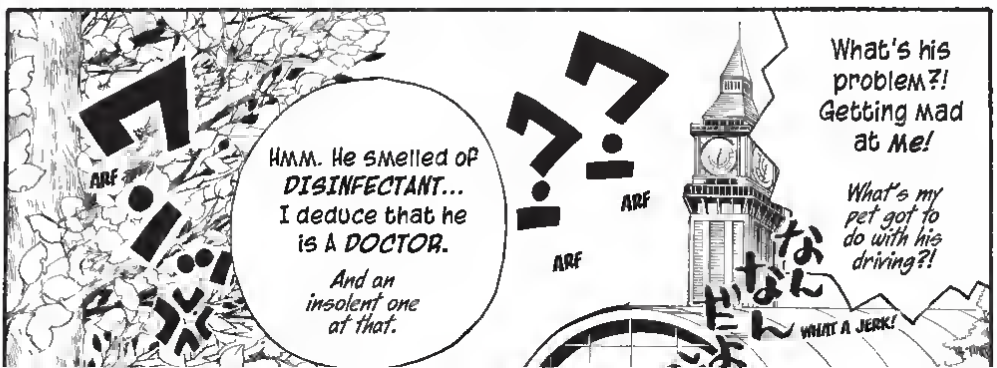

KREE
ROLL ROLL...


Why did you jump out like that?!
Give me your name and school year!
Takehiko Chikamatsu (48)
Doctor (hired by school)


How can you bring that filthy mutt to school on a health exam day?! It's unheard of!!!
Wha...?!
VROOOM
Filthy?!

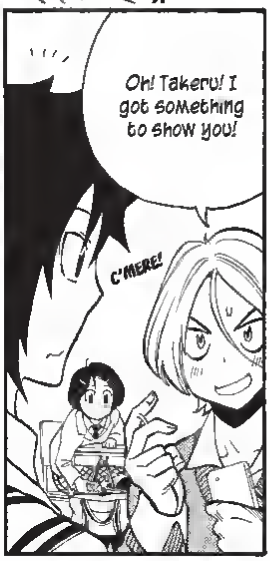

And you're supposed to drive slow in a school zone!
Didn't you see the stop sign?
QUIET!!
Yeah! Yeah!
ARF ARF

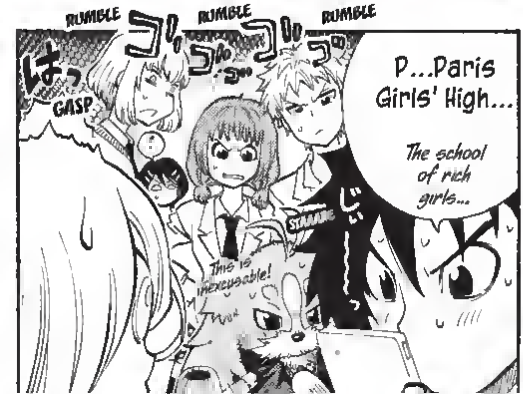
MRK
...Why the interrogation?!


ARF
Hmm. He smelled of DISINFECTANT... I deduce that he is A DOCTOR.
And an insolent one at that.
ARF
ARF
What's his problem?! Getting mad at Me!
What's my pet got to do with his driving?!
なんなんだよ
WHAT A JERK!

And we have our physicals today! They're gonna weigh us!
Ugh!
SQUEE
SQUEE
Man, I'm in a bad mood.
RATTLE
!
TUG
Oh, no! I totally just ate my lunch!

DUH!
Whoa!


Oh! Takeru! I got something to show you!
C'MERE!


RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
GASP
SHAME
This is inexcusable!
P...Paris Girls' High...
The school of rich girls...

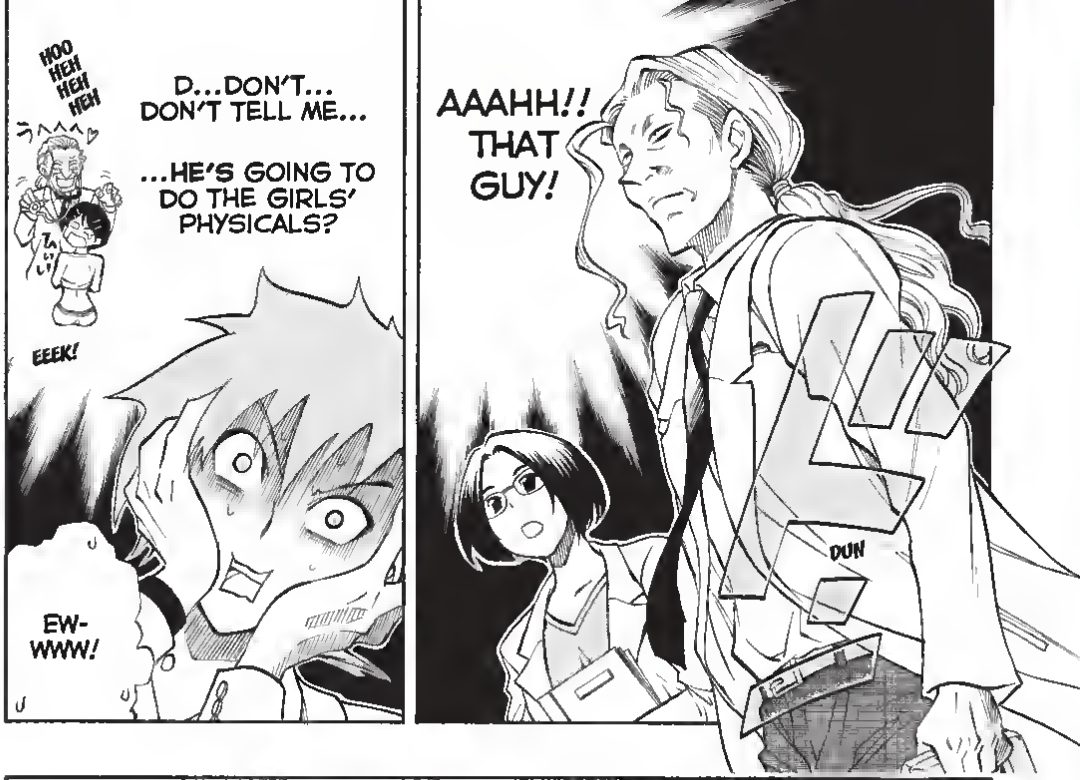
Those uniforms .. Is this high school affiliated with Paris Women's College?
Shh!
What is this...? "Voyeurs' Photo Board"?

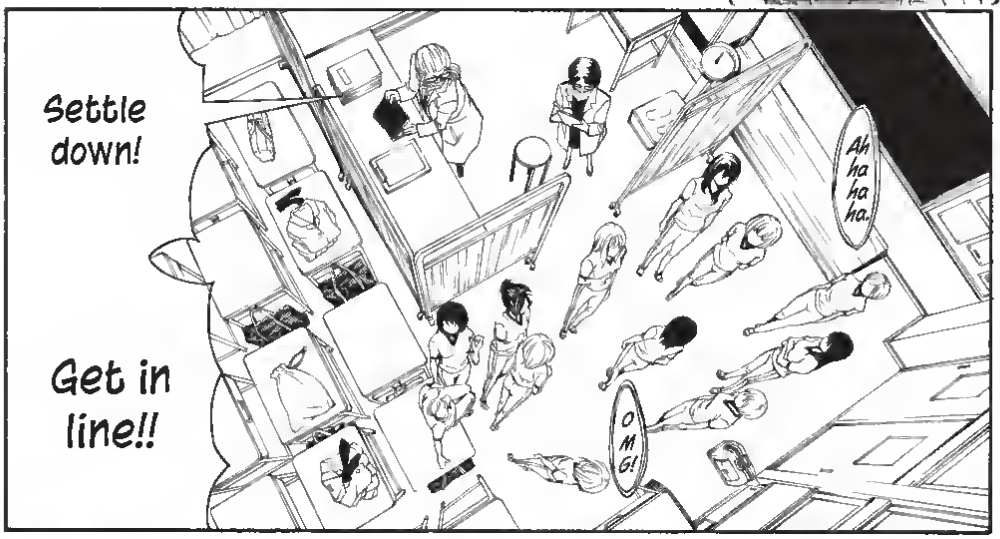
GLANCE
I-It's not like that! I was just thinking that we'd better be careful. It looks like those pictures were taken in the middle of their physical exams!
?!
What are you staring at, pervert?!
RAR RAR
HMPH
Boys, out in the hall!
Hey! We're starting your physicals!
SLUMP...
THIS IS ONE OF THE WORST DAYS OF MY LIFE.
THIS SUCKS...
GASP!
I left Sherdog in my school bag!!
Huh?
I feel like I'm forgetting something...
ARE ARE!
ARE!
Watson! You forgot to take me with you!
H... hello?
TODAY IS REALLY NOT MY DAY.

がらっ
RATTLE
..og-
Sherdo...
I...I can't come out now!
Note: He's an English gentleman.

THIS... IS THE WORST DAY EVER.
CLACK CLACK
コツ コツ
Mm-hm.
Chikamatsu-sensei... The girls' classroom is this way.

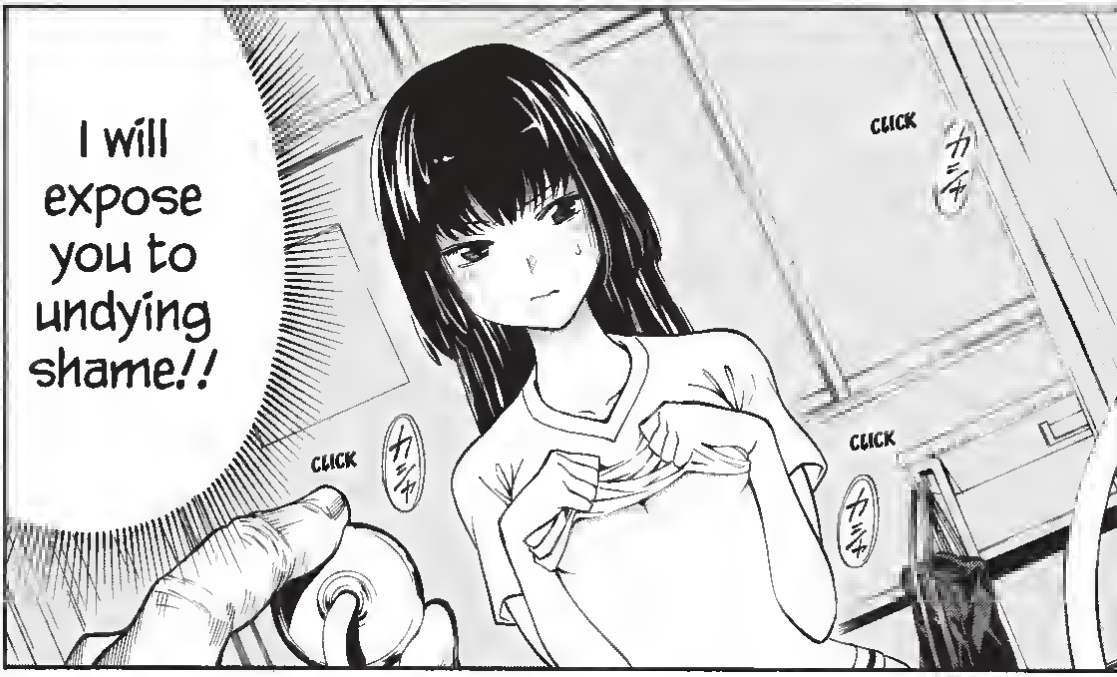
Get out!!!
Peeping Tom!!
Aaaahh! Pervert!
KAPOP
BONK
ポコ


HOO HEH HEH HEH
D...DON'T... DON'T TELL ME...
...HE'S GOING TO DO THE GIRLS' PHYSICALS?
EEEK!
EW-WWW!
AAAHH!! THAT GUY!
DUN


Settle down!
Get in line!!
Ah ha ha ha.
O M G!

...
Really?! Oh, Miki...
I have to go get a vaccine from him on my way home.
He's the doctor from the clinic near the school.
TAPPA
TAPPA
PSST
He's scary!
PSST
I hate that doctor.
...

Foolish females...
Hmph!


I will expose you to undying shame!!
CLICK
カシャ
CLICK
カシャ
CLICK
カシャ

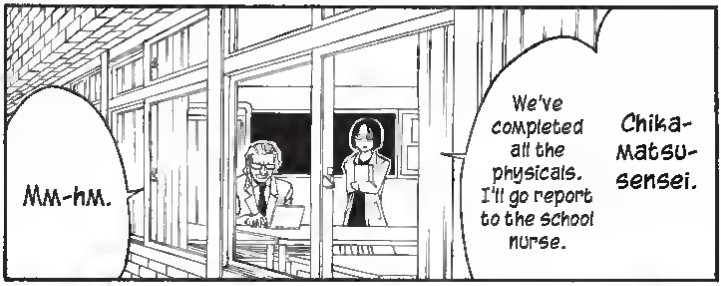
TAPPA
カタカタ
TAPPA
London High School Second Year Girls (D)
Name
A1
A2
It's time...
...Okay.
Now turn around.
...
LEER

FLASH
Voyeurs' Photo Board
Name:
Email:
Subject:
SMIRK
Um... sensei?
CLICK
...to create my alibi!
...
I know!
I think she has a vaccination appointment today.
I'M ready...
...!
Oho...well if it isn't Miki Arisaka. She comes by my clinic from time to time.
Voyeurs from all over the country will be after her...heh heh heh...
Now!
What...?
Now take off your shirt.
She's a pretty little thing! I'll give her special treatment and post her name with the photo!

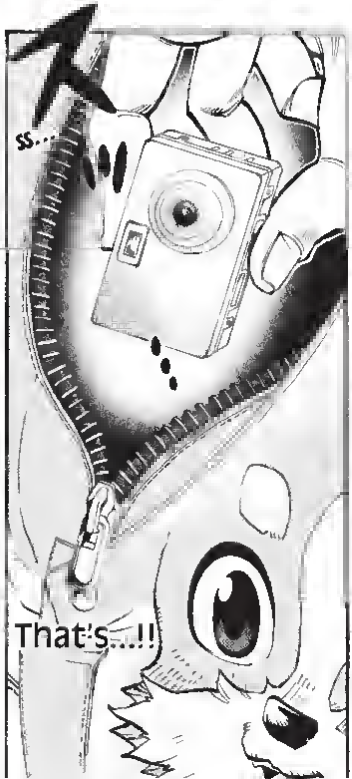
Takeruuuu!!
Hm?
Look, look! What do you make of it?
Ack!
You're still looking at that stuff?!
STOMP
STOMP
...What?!
DUN
Th...these are...
Here's a Preview lol
Look for the whole selection tonight at zero hour!!!
That means...
Right? That's gotta be Mizuki and Fujisaki!
Some creep is taking photos...

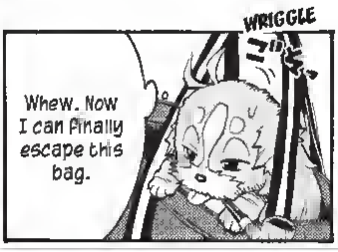
BAM
I-I'll go tell a teacher!
...OF OUR SCHOOL'S PHYSICAL EXAMS!!

SHUT...
That went well... Heh heh...


Mm-hm.
We've completed all the physicals. I'll go report to the school nurse.
Chika-Matsu-sensei.

Will all students and faculty please remain on campus.
Emergency school broadcast. Emergency school broadcast.
We are putting the school on emergency lock-down. We appreciate your cooperation.


SS...
That's...!!

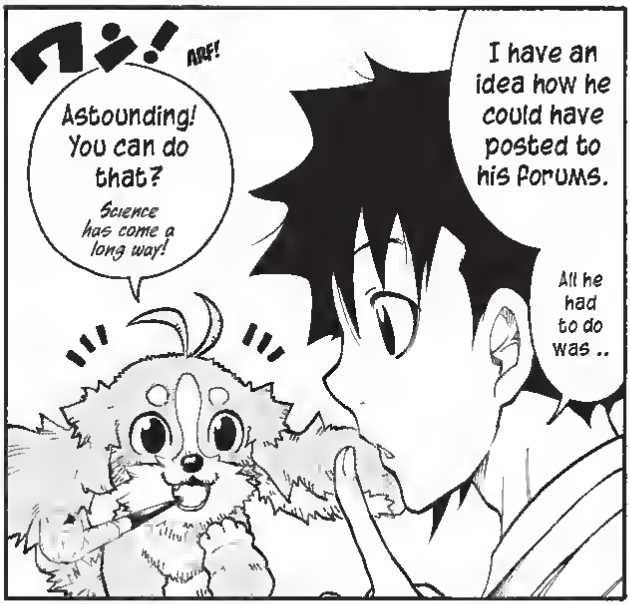

WRIGGLE
Whew. Now I can finally escape this bag.

HM?
SKFF
SKFF

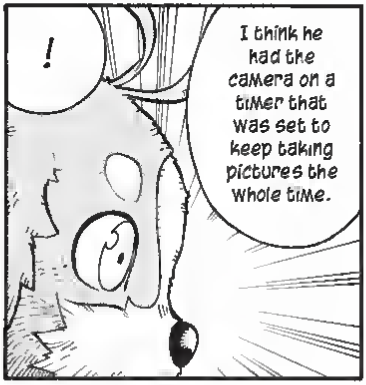
Could someone have seen my preview already?
MUTTER MUTTER...
...kids these days. Looking at that stuff at school.
Then the photos we saw at lunchtime...
...were his dirty work!
TCH.
This doesn't look good...
The fiend... he is a disgrace to the medical profession.
SQUIRM
I will bring him to justice at once!!
Now's my chance...
TEP
After that announcement, I could be in trouble...
!
...
I know...
...

Are you sure, Sherdog?!
I saw him hide a camera in his medical bag.
Positive.
...
This isn't funny!
...and put a stop to this immediately!
We have to grab this Chikamatsu by the tail...
GRIT
So if we don't catch him...
...he'll post naked pictures of Miki on the internet.
Medical scoundrel...
ARF!
...But!
Of course we do!

How did he take those pictures...
...while his camera was so far from his person?
And how did he post them on the internet?
He was busy examining patients.


I have an idea how he could have posted to his forums.
All he had to do was ..
ARF!
Astounding! You can do that?
Science has come a long way!

...
Sigh... One hundred years can really change a world...

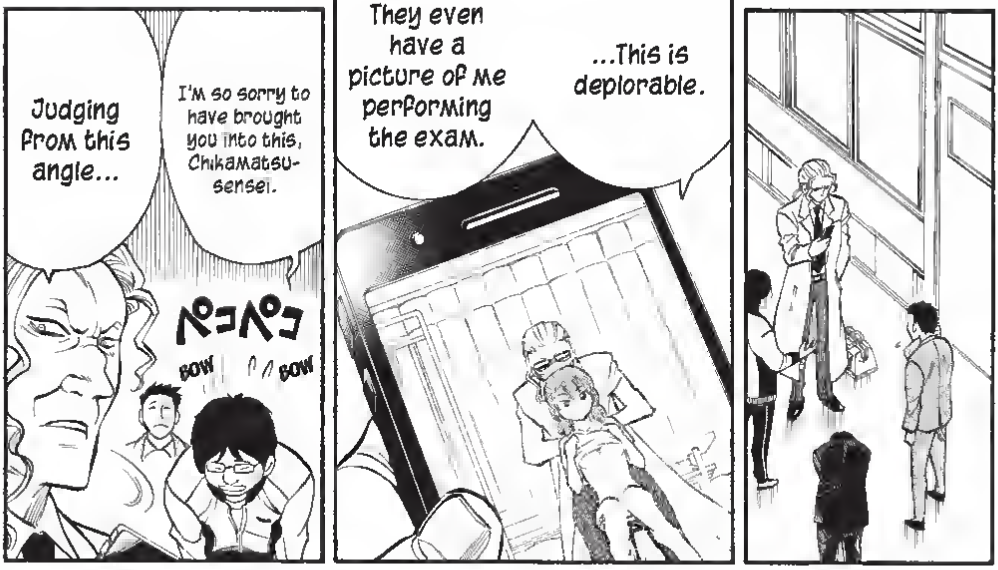

I think he had the camera on a timer that was set to keep taking pictures the whole time.
!

If we let Chikamatsu outside the school, he'll probably get rid of the evidence.
And then it's game over... Nude Miki will be all over the internet.
So how can we get answers from that stuck-up, ornery doctor?
ARF!
Not to worry!

But in exchange for these modern world conveniences, we see an increase in the villains who abuse them.
No kidding!

What are we gonna do, Takeru?
I can grant you that piece of wisdom. All you need to do is...
GRR...
O-oh! I get it!!
Miki.
WOBBLE
WOBBLE
Someone was sneaking pictures of us?
I heard from one of the teachers.
...What?
R...really?
And I need your help!
I know who did it!
GRIN
Don't worry!

Okay, time to face the criminal, Sherdog!!
Yes, let's go!


Judging from this angle...
I'm so sorry to have brought you into this, Chikamatsu-sensei.
ペコペコ
BOW
BOW
They even have a picture of me performing the exam.
...This is deplorable.

You think so?
Hey, no kidding! I mean...it's just as you say, sir.
You can see it's ajar.
...I would say the photos were taken from the hall through that ventilation door.

W... Wajima?
Was someone really taking pictures from there?

But something's weird about it.
Well, yeah, that's true about the angle.
What are you trying to say? That is the only place to get pictures at that angle.
...You're that student I ran into earlier—the one without the sense to leave his dog at home.
There was a bag in the way. I couldn't see it.
No.
Did you notice the ventilation door open during your physical?
Miki.
What? A bag?
Yes, sir!
Chika-Matsu-sensei's Medical bag!!
TWITCH

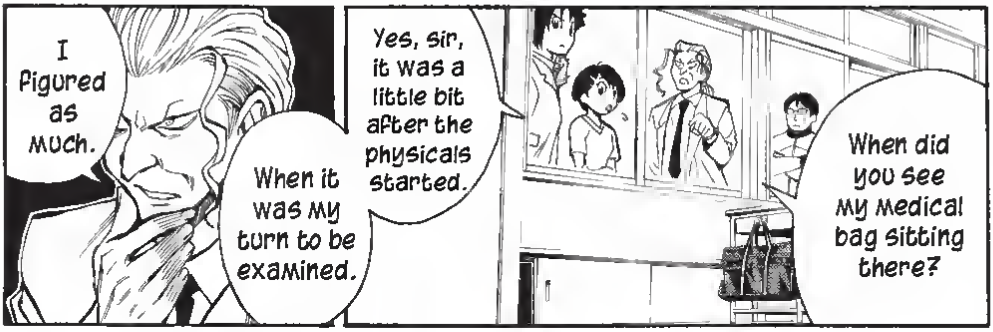
You don't have to be a genius to figure out that the bag would be in the picture.
How could anyone have taken such clear pictures from the hallway?
If Miki's right and you couldn't see the opening in the door because of the bag,
Why bother?
Move it back after taking the pictures?
...
The photographer probably moved the bag to take the picture, then moved it back.
...What?
Takeru...
It's the least they could do to prevent discovery.
But that doesn't make sense, either.
IRK...

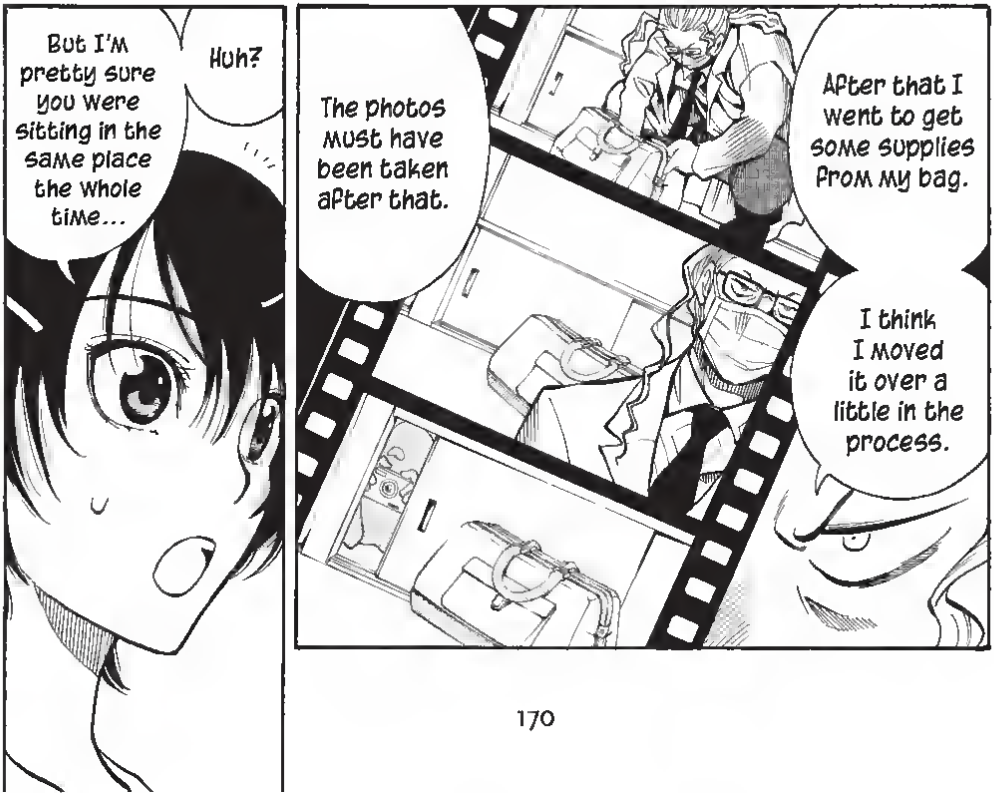
He would have closed the door, too, right?
LONDON
If the photographer was that careful,

Meddling kid!!
Grr...

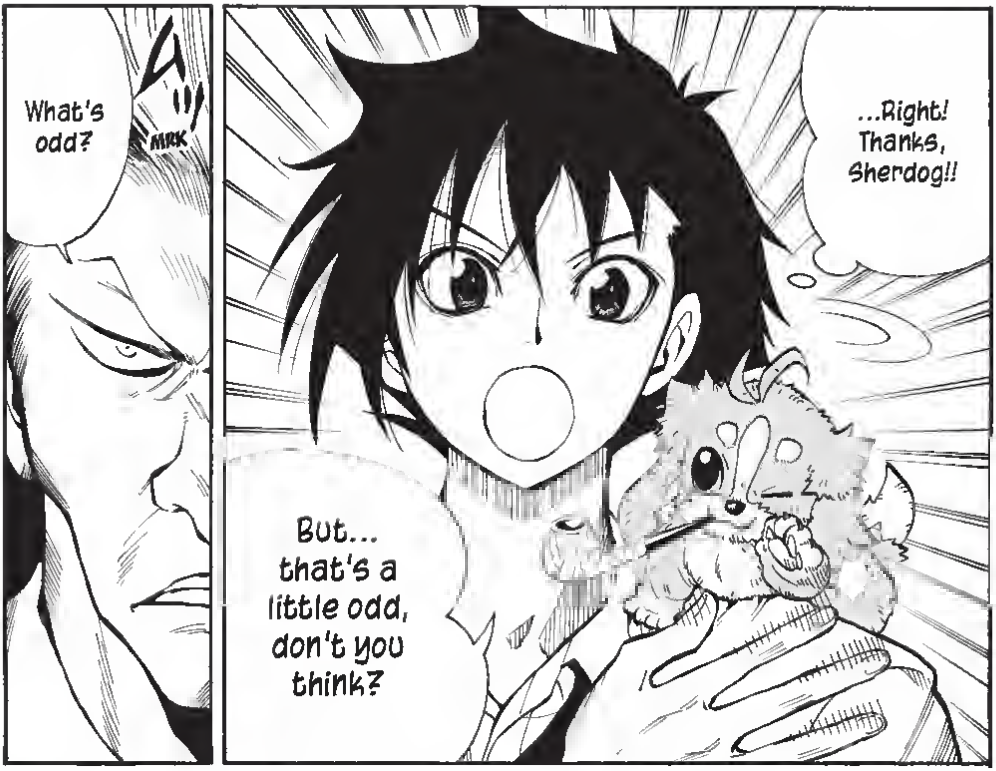
Coffee Time 1: Doctor Chikamatsu's Collection (Conclusion)

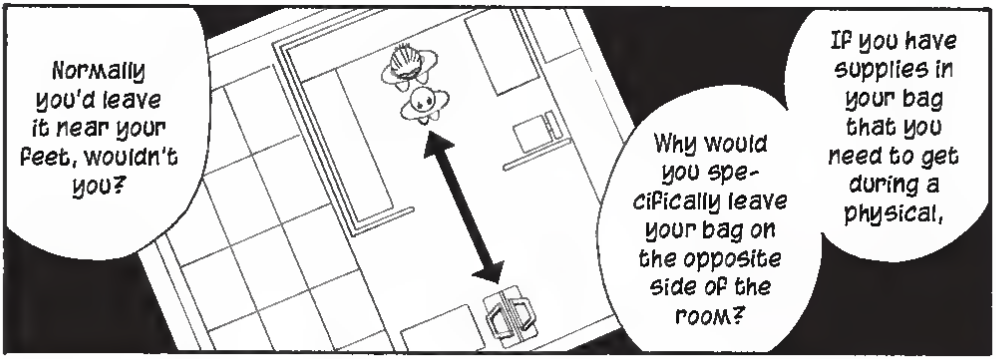
You! Arisaka-kun, was it?
You have an appoint-ment with me to get a vaccination today...?
Uh! Yes, sir!

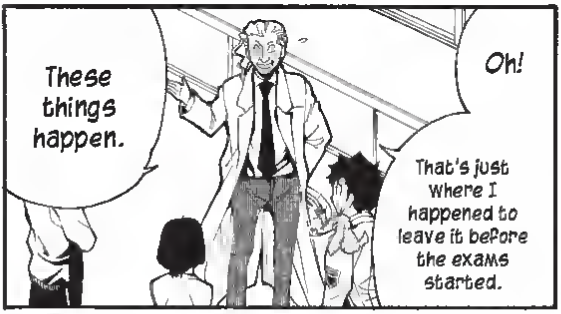

When did you see my medical bag sitting there?
Yes, sir, it was a little bit after the physicals started.
When it was my turn to be examined.
I figured as much.


After that I went to get some supplies from my bag.
I think I moved it over a little in the process.
The photos must have been taken after that.
Huh?
But I'm pretty sure you were sitting in the same place the whole time...

It stands to reason that you would not be looking at me, either!
...yes, sir...
You strip down to your underwear during the exam. You wouldn't want to be seen more than necessary, correct?
W... well...
Yes, sir.
ZOOM!
Hmm? You say you were watching me the entire time? I doubt it.
IT'S A LOGICAL ARGUMENT. WHAT DO WE DO?
ARGH!
...!
Am I mistaken?
!
?!
ARF!


What's odd?
MRK
...Right! Thanks, Sherdog!!
But... that's a little odd, don't you think?


Normally you'd leave it near your feet, wouldn't you?
Why would you specifically leave your bag on the opposite side of the room?
If you have supplies in your bag that you need to get during a physical,


These things happen.
Oh!
That's just where I happened to leave it before the exams started.

That's a good point. That is weird.
PSST
PSST
That...

But you just said you only moved it over a little.
But then, when you went to go get your supplies...
I...I didn't think to take it with me at the time.
...Wouldn't you have brought the whole bag back with you?
What are you implying?
Chikamatsu-sensei!
I'm implying that I think *you* were the photographer.
Wha—?!
TWITCH

You can't make out any of his features.
You can see some of Chika-matsu-sensei.
He's wearing black-rimmed glasses and a mask over his face.
Take a look at this photo.
W... Wajima ...
KAPOP
See that doctor in the background?
PWIP
By the way,
This picture was taken at Paris Girls' High School.
Does it look like Chikamatsu-sensei to anyone else?
You weren't wearing glasses, were you?
But when I saw you in your car this morning,
...
Is it?
But it's just a coincidence.
W-well, that certainly is me.
...!
What?!
You... you're right!!

TWITCH
TWITCH
Am I wrong, Chikamatsu-sensei?
This—!
So you made a simple disguise with the black-rimmed glasses and face mask.
You wouldn't want to have your face on the internet when the pictures go live.
Are you sure it's not a disguise?
I need glasses when I attend to my patients!!
My eyes aren't what they used to be!
What about the glasses?
This is preposterous! I only wear a mask because I don't want to catch anything from the students!
!
Chika-Matsu-sensei!
But you never wear glasses at your clinic, right?

Have you all forgotten?
W... wait!
RUMMAGE
...
...
...
How could I have uploaded them if I was in the middle of an exam?
BAM
[20xx/xx/03/14:21:47]
The pictures were posted online while I was busy with the students!
But how did I post those pictures to that forum?!
You hid a digital camera in your Medical bag...
...And set it to take pictures automatically at timed intervals.
ARF
He used the trick you told me about!
Get him, Watson!!
HOO

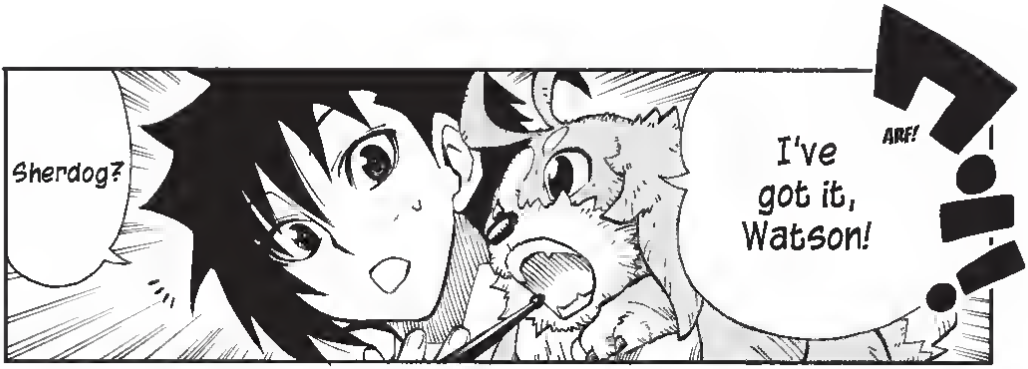
If you left a laptop open during the physicals, it would receive all the pictures.
You can buy memory cards that use a Wi-Fi connection to automatically send pictures to a computer.
Then, when you had a free second, you could post them to the forum!
I wouldn't have been able to remove the camera from the bag during an exam.
Let alone post its pictures on the internet.
Yes you would!
Wait!!
I don't have to take this!! If you'll excuse me!!
BAM
...Grr!!
xxxx[20xx/xx/03,14:03:25]
☆★☆Here's a Preview
It was a little weird that the poster would go to the trouble to post one picture as a "preview."
But if you did it just to create an alibi, suddenly it makes sense.

...
GRIT
Before you go, could we take a look inside your bag?
Have it your way!!
RUM-MAGE
ゴソゴソ...
BAM
...
Uh...
Huh...?
That's impossible! Look harder, Watson!!
ARF!
ARF!
MURMUR
It...
It's not here.

Search me all you like.
Go ahead.
I know! Check his clothes.
I...I can't find it...
BAM!
If I were behind this, I doubt I would leave campus without taking all the evidence with me.
Maybe he heard the PA and hid it in the classroom?
PAT
PAT
...It's not on him!
Then you wouldn't be able to get it back.
G... good point.
GRRR...
What did you do? You sly devil ..

You've accused the school's doctor of voyeurism.
What are you going to do about this, hmm?
Grr!
...
IF WE COULD JUST LOOK AT HIS COMPUTER...
DAMN IT...!!
I...I'M sorry...
GH
GH
GH
I'M SURE THE PICTURES ARE STILL THERE!
I deserve an apology!!
WHAM!
!!
...!
T... Takeru ...

...
That will do.
Think about what you've done.
...?
Vice Principal, the photographer is sure to be one of the boys at this school.
Send the girls home, then check all the boys' belongings.
If you still don't find it, have your teachers comb the school.
Y-yes, sir. We'll do that.
CLACK
CLACK – CLACK
You'd better get your things together and go home, Arisaka-kun.
Y... yes, sir.
I'M glad he forgave you so quickly, Takeru.
Maybe he's nicer than he looks.
...Not a chance.
Now if you'll excuse me.
GRIN
WHERE IS THE CAMERA ?!
DAMMIT.
IF I CAN'T FIND IT, MIKI'S NAKED PICTURES WILL END UP ON THE WEB!


Sherdog?
I've got it, Watson!
ARF!

...?
What would that be?

We're looking for an item that would be brought to the school, then, once used, would not be opened again until it has been taken home.
Here's a little quiz for you.

Luckily, that flash of bold inspiration saved me from disaster.
KNOCK KNOCK
CREAK...

That was close. That Wajima brat... he's smarter than I gave him credit for.
Chikamatsu Clinic

Sensei, Arisaka-san is here for her appointment.
Thank you for seeing me.
I'm sorry about what my friend said today.

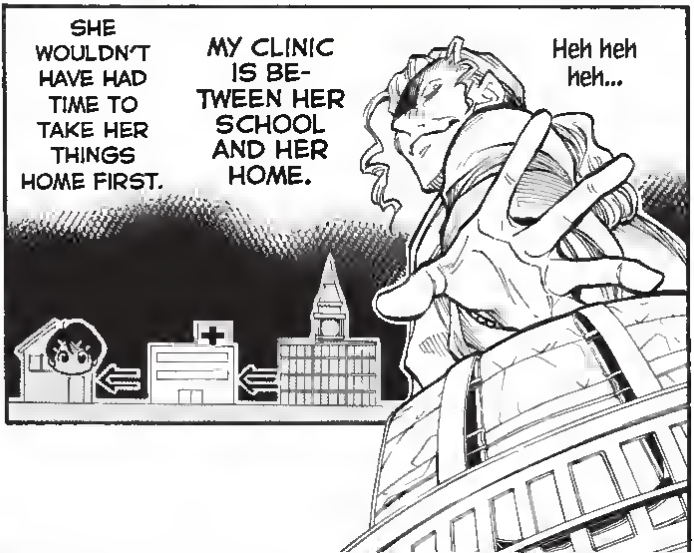
Now's my chance.
...Good.

Nurse, take this patient to the examination room and take her temperature.
Huh...?
Hmm? Your face is a little red. ...Do you have a fever?
Yes, doctor.

SMIRK...

Oh, leave your bag there.
No, no, it's quite all right.
Yes, sir.

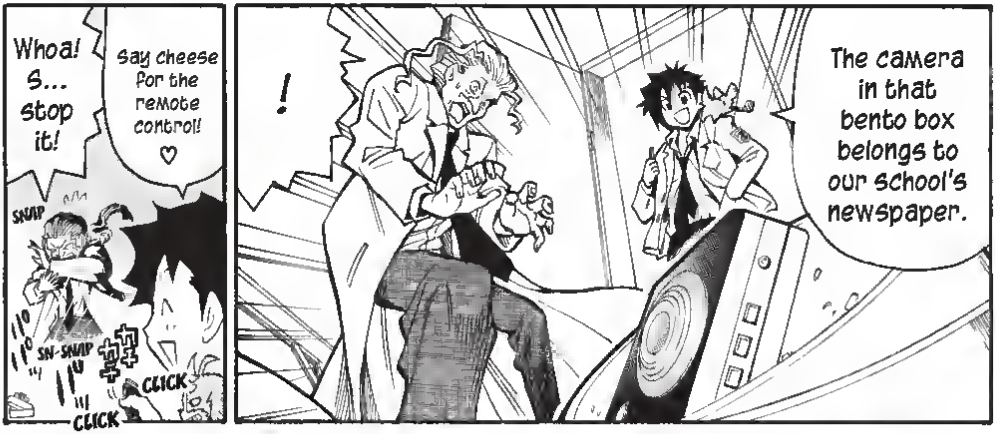
All I have to do...
...Is take my camera back.
RUMMAGE...

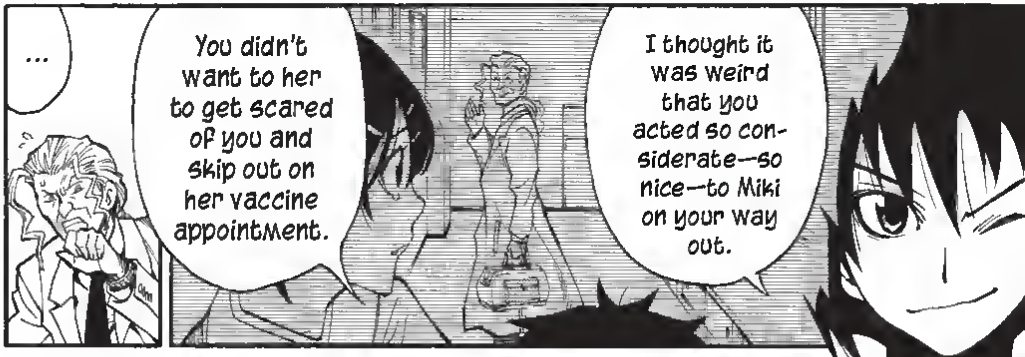

SHE WOULDN'T HAVE HAD TIME TO TAKE HER THINGS HOME FIRST.
MY CLINIC IS BETWEEN HER SCHOOL AND HER HOME.
Heh heh heh...

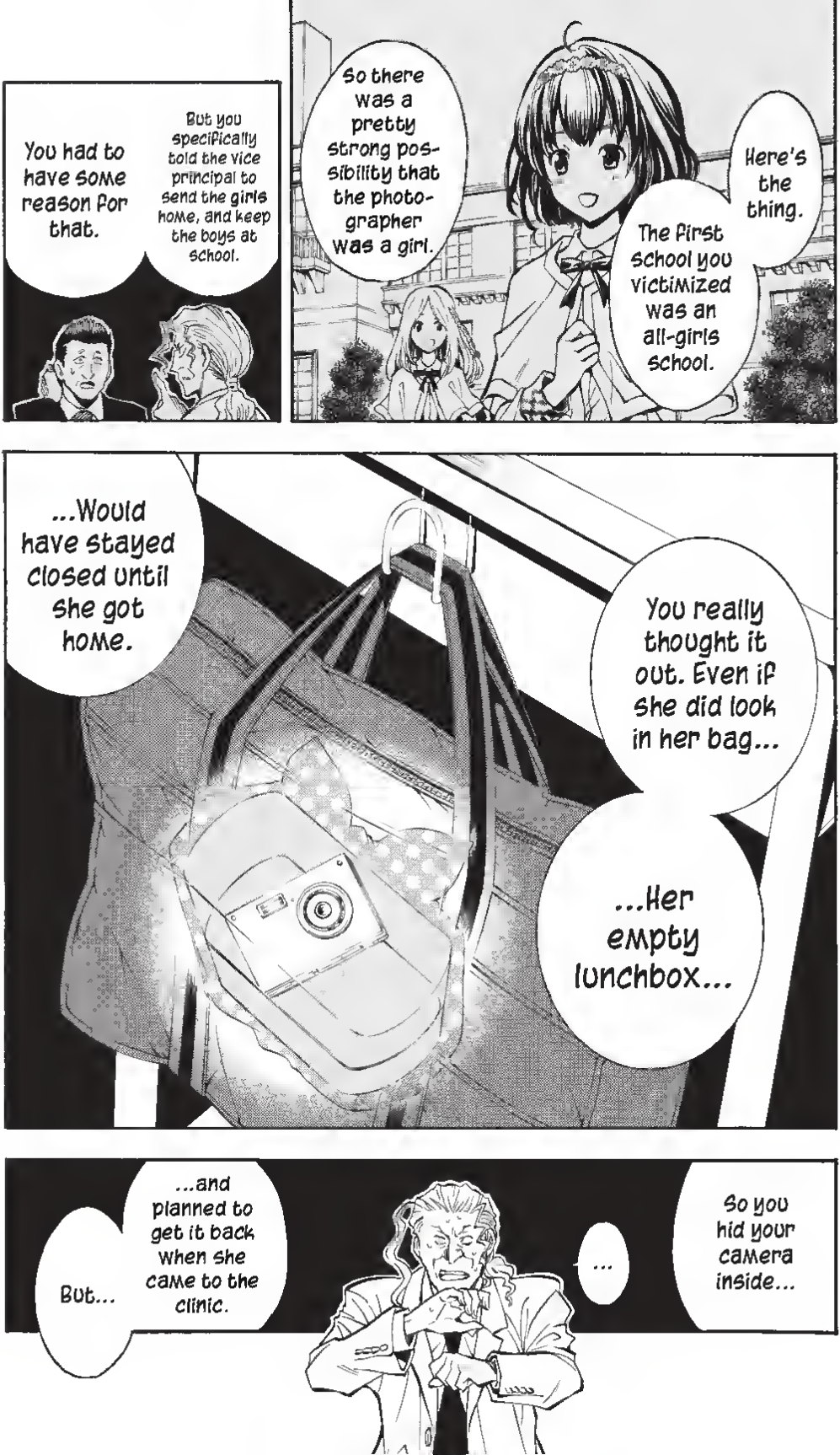
?!

Wh... what the—?!
Wah!
SN-SNAP

Y...you...!
Smile! ♡ You're on Candid Camera!
POING


Whoa! S... stop it!
Say cheese for the remote control! ♡
SNAP
SNI-SNAP
CLICK
CLICK
!
The camera in that bento box belongs to our school's newspaper.


...
You didn't want to her to get scared of you and skip out on her vaccine appointment.
I thought it was weird that you acted so considerate—so nice—to Miki on your way out.

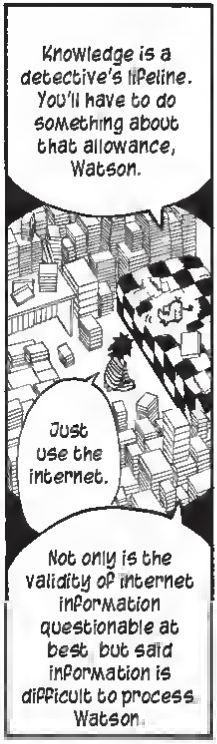

Here's the thing.
The first school you victimized was an all-girls school.
So there was a pretty strong possibility that the photographer was a girl.
But you specifically told the vice principal to send the girls home, and keep the boys at school.
You had to have some reason for that.
You really thought it out. Even if she did look in her bag...
...Would have stayed closed until she got home.
...Her empty lunchbox...
So you hid your camera inside...
...
...and planned to get it back when she came to the clinic.
But...

...Your camera is right here.
Unfortunately for you...
GRIN
!!
Got it! Nice work, Takeru!
ZSH
Dad! This doctor is the one who took all those pictures.
Oh, right.
We arrested the photogra—
Miki! It's okay now!
KACHAK
You've been charged with harassment and disturbing the peace.
PAT
Takehiko Chikamatsu! I must ask you to come with me.

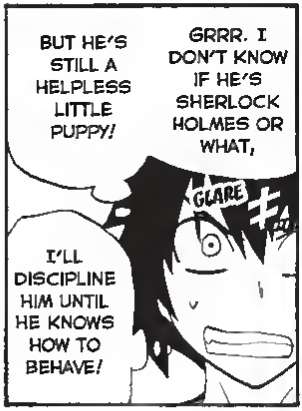
To be continued in Volume 3

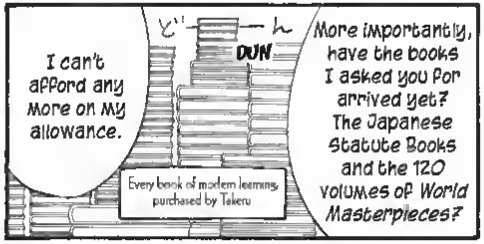
I want to frolic and play, like with an ordinary dog!! Don't you understand, Sherdog?!!
I! Love!! Dogs!!
I can't take it anymore!!
That's not how dogs play!!
SIGH
21 straight wins
← 0 wins
Up for another round of chess?
But I always play with you in your free time.

MAYBE I WILL SNAP THAT PIPE IN TWO...
Must you be completely useless?
YAWN

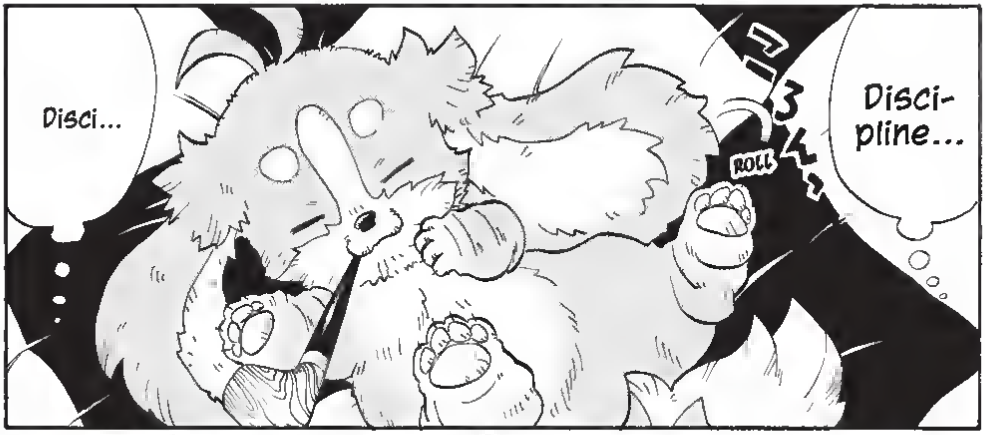

Knowledge is a detective's lifeline. You'll have to do something about that allowance, Watson.
Just use the internet.
Not only is the validity of internet information questionable at best, but said information is difficult to process, Watson.

Now fetch!
They play, like...y'know. Fetch, and Frisbee, and tag...
Such dull and pointless frivolities. You would have me act like a dog?
DREAMY
BLUNT
Come back here!


BUT HE'S STILL A HELPLESS LITTLE PUPPY!
GRRR. I DON'T KNOW IF HE'S SHERLOCK HOLMES OR WHAT,
GLARE
I'LL DISCIPLINE HIM UNTIL HE KNOWS HOW TO BEHAVE!


I can't afford any more on my allowance.
DUN
Every book of modern learning, purchased by Takeru
More importantly, have the books I asked you for arrived yet? The Japanese Statute Books and the 120 volumes of World Masterpieces?

Ando-sensei, Editor I-san, my staff, my mentor, my friends, my family, and all my readers—thanks ..



..always! I'll continue to work hard every day. Yuki

Note: Won't let him pet him when he's awake

To be continued next volume! (I think.)

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